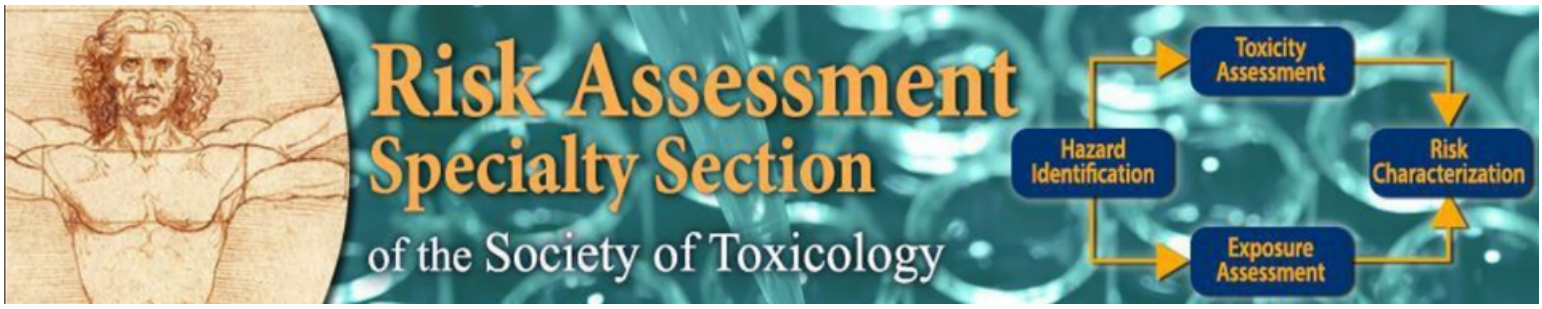


President's Message

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I hope that everyone is looking forward to the upcoming SOT meeting in San Diego!! Although this time of the year brings intense insanity for me with getting presentations ready, this is one of my favorite times of the year.

We have some important information about the 2026 Annual Meeting in this newsletter.

1) RASS Reception at the Annual Meeting: Mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 24, from 6:00 – 7:30 PM PDT, at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, Marriott Grand Ballroom 5. At the reception, we will welcome our incoming officers, acknowledge our outgoing officers, hold our awards ceremony, and we will also hold a poster discussion with our award winners from 6:40 – 7 PM PDT.

2) RASS held a successful virtual business meeting on February 6, 2026. I would like to extend a big thank you to the rest of the EC for all of their help! Also, a big thank you goes to all members who were able to join the virtual business meeting. For those unable to attend, this newsletter covers all pertinent information to keep you informed.

3) In this newsletter, you will read about our general financial and Endowment Fund status as well as the results of the student/postdoc awards, best abstract awards, and best paper awards. A big congratulations to all of our award winners! The RASS EC would also like to thank our award reviewers—award review is a major undertaking and we could not complete this process without your help. Award winners and award reviewers should see our VP (Kan Shao) at the RASS Reception for drink tickets.

4) In this newsletter, you will also find a listing of all RASS-endorsed CE courses and scientific sessions, so mark your calendars!

5) RASS Officer Ballot: This recently got sent out to membership so don't forget to vote for incoming RASS officers! The results of our ballot will be announced at the RASS reception. Additionally, we would like to extend a big thank you to our outgoing officers—we will miss you!

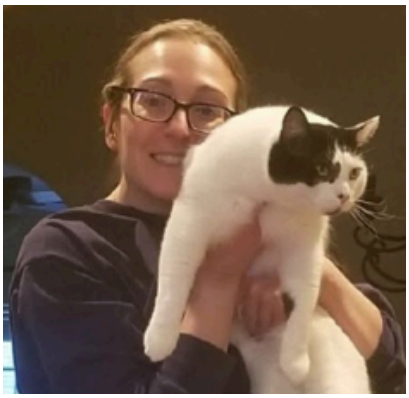
6) RASS Mentoring Events: Monday, March 23, from 7:30 – 9 PM PDT: SOT NetworX Night (Marriott Grand Ballroom 4)

7) 2027 SOT Proposal Review: Session proposals can be submitted to RASS for pre-review at sotrassawards@gmail.com. Pre-review is not required for endorsement; however, this is an opportunity to get feedback to refine the proposal. Instructions for developing and submitting session proposals can be found on the SOT website.

Looking forward to seeing everyone and connecting in San Diego!! :)

Cheers and warm regards,

Anne E. Loccisano, PhD, DABT, Fellow ATS
RASS President, 2025-2026



Anne Loccisano
RASS President

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2026-2027 INCOMING RASS OFFICER ELECTIONS

RASS is one of the largest SOT Specialty Sections. This standing is and will continue to be only as strong as the RASS leadership. Thank you to everyone who ran for an Officer position and we encourage everyone to vote!

Election results will be announced at the RASS Reception during the 2026 SOT meeting in San Diego on Tuesday, March 24th, 6:00 - 7:30 PM at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, Marriott Grand Ballroom 5



Vice President-Elect



Junior Councilor



Postdoctoral Representative

JOIN THE RASS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There will be several openings on the 2027-2028 ballot.

- The roles and responsibilities of each position can be found on the RASS Officers webpage.
- Be on the lookout for more information in our Fall 2026 Newsletter.

OUTGOING RASS OFFICERS: THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

Past President



Bernard Gadagbui, PhD, DABT
TERA

Councilor



Melissa Heintz, PhD
ToxStrategies LLC

Postdoctoral Representative



Chi-Yun Chen, PhD
University of Florida

Current RASS Officers

President
Anne Loccisano, PhD, DABT

Vice President
Kan Shao, PhD, DABT

Past President
Bernard Gadagbui, PhD, DABT

Vice President-Elect
Kathryn Page, PhD, DABT, ERT

Secretary/Treasurer
Nikolaos Georgiadis, PhD

Councilors
Melissa Heintz, PhD
Alexandra Cordova, PhD

Postdoctoral Representative
Chi-Yun Chen, PhD

Student Representative
Disha Gupta

Newsletter Editors
Melissa Heintz, PhD
Alexandra Cordova, PhD
Bernard Gadagbui, PhD, DABT

Connect with RASS

LinkedIn

RASS FINANCIAL STATUS

- Dues-paying members: 618 (as of February 2026)
- Financials:
  - Net assets as of December 2024: $85,092.00
  - Net assets as of December 2025: $93,429.55
  - Expenses for 2026 Annual Meeting not yet paid:
    - Plaques and ribbons: $700 (estimated)
    - Catering and costs for the RASS mixer: $13,257 (estimated)
    - Contribution to mentoring activities: $100 (estimated)



RASS ENDOWMENT FUNDS

RASS has five Endowment Fund-supported awards for students and postdocs: the John Doull Risk Assessment Endowment Award, the Perry J. Gehring Risk Assessment Student and Postdoctoral Endowment Awards, the Robert J. Rubin Student Travel Award, and the Andersen-Clewell Trainee Award. We encourage our members to contribute to our Endowment Funds, as they provide stipends to graduate student and postdoctoral members who display excellence in risk assessment.

Our goal in the next year is to increase each fund by at least $2,000 ($8,000 in total). With your help, the annual RASS merit-based Endowment Fund awards will continue to increase each year. Please help us meet this goal and continue to support the next generation of toxicologists. Please visit the SOT website to see current contributors and learn more about the Endowments.

2025 Financial Overview for RASS Endowment Funds

Endowment Fund	Assets as of January 2025	Assets as of September 2025	1-Year Change in Assets	% Change in Assets
John Doull Risk Assessment Endowment Award	$59,522	$64,152	+ $4,630	+ 7.8 %
Perry J. Gehring Risk Assessment Endowment Awards	$57,464	$60,833	+ $3,369	+ 5.9 %
Robert J. Rubin Student Travel Award	$59,230	$63,730	+ $4,500	+ 7.6 %
Andersen-Clewell Trainee Award	$68,218	$73,630	+ $5,412	+ 7.9 %
Total in RASS Endowment Funds	**$244,434**	**$262,345**	**+ $17,911**	**+ 7.3 %**

RASS would like to thank the 2025-2026 Endowment Funds Committee:



Laura Plunkett, PhD
Integrative Biostrategies, LLC



Bernard Gadagbui, PhD, DABT
Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment (TERA)



Anne Loccisano, PhD, DABT
Exponent, Inc.



David Szabo, PhD, DABT
PPG Industries, Inc.



Tami McMullin, PhD
CTEH, LLC

RASS SPONSORSHIP

RASS offers the opportunity for individuals and organizations to support the future of RASS through several levels of sponsorship. Please consider making a donation to support RASS. Donations can also be made anonymously if preferred. Click here to make a donation to our operating fund.

Sponsorship Level	Amount	Potential Sponsorship Recognition
Leadership	$5,000	RASS newsletter, RASS business meeting, RASS annual reception, RASS LinkedIn
Mentoring	$1,000	RASS newsletter, RASS business meeting, RASS mentoring events, RASS LinkedIn
Education	$500	RASS newsletter, RASS annual reception, RASS LinkedIn
Visibility	$100	RASS newsletter, RASS annual reception
Networking	< $100	RASS annual reception



Thank you for supporting the future of RASS!

RISK ASSESSMENT SYLLABUS

The Risk Assessment Syllabus Planning Committee, with the support of RASS leadership, has continued the development of a dedicated "Risk Assessment Syllabus" that was initiated in 2022. This training series complements the existing RASS webinar series and other RASS-related mentoring initiatives.

The objective of this Syllabus is to provide participants with an introduction to the fundamental concepts and terminology associated with chemical risk assessment, as well as a practical perspective on the application of risk assessment principles to inform decision making. Each event in the series is focused on a selected risk assessment-related topic and has speakers from academia, government, and/or industry, with each speaker providing their perspective on what risk assessment means in their respective sector.

The Syllabus provides Trainees with valuable insights that enhance their awareness of the importance and sector-specific aspects of risk assessment in their professional careers and the required skills for the respective job profiles. For current professionals, the Syllabus provides an opportunity to refresh and advance their understanding of risk assessment principles and to develop sector-specific perspectives on contemporary topics in human and environmental health sciences.

The Syllabus is currently hosted in a web-based format to maximize attendance. Individual events are structured to contain a formal presentation focusing on a specific aspect relevant to risk assessment, followed by an open panel discussion with invited experts in the field. Our most recent webinar "Basic Tenets of Risk Characterization" was held in June 2025; details on this event can be found on the RASS Events webpage. The next Risk Assessment Syllabus webinar is anticipated for June 2026, the specific topic, date and time will be determined by spring 2026.

Risk Assessment Syllabus Planning Committee

Committee Chair: Li Yang, RASS Councilor 2020-2022
George Woodall, RASS Past President 2018-2019
Nathan Pechacek, RASS Secretary/Treasurer 2019-2021
Laura Plunkett, RASS President 2020-2021
Jon Urban
Bernard Gadagbui, RASS Past President current
Sarah Burnett, RASS Councilor 2023-2025
Melissa Heintz, RASS Councilor 2024-present
Chi-Yun Chen, Postdoctoral Rep 2024-present
Kelly Salinas, RASS Volunteer
Zemin Wang

We would like to thank the Risk Assessment Syllabus Planning Committee, who plans and coordinates the Risk Assessment Syllabus webinars. The Committee is currently seeking experts in any of the disciplines associated with chemical risk assessment to consider serving on the Committee. In addition, the Committee is currently seeking experts to volunteer to participate as a panelist and share their experiences and perspectives in one of the open discussions. We would also like to use this opportunity to collect feedback, suggestions, and ideas for future Syllabus webinars from the RASS membership. If you are interested in serving on the Committee, participating as a panelist for a Syllabus webinar, or have suggestions for topics for future Syllabus webinars, please email the official RASS email (sotrassawards@gmail.com).

RASS WEBINAR SERIES

RASS webinars are held from Fall through Spring, generally on the second Wednesday of each month. If you cannot participate in any of the live RASS webinars, links to the past webinar slides and recordings are available on the RASS website. Information on upcoming and past webinars are on our events page.

Below are the recent webinars from the 2025-2026 series.

February 11, 2026 - Joint Webinar with Exposure Specialty Section (See Recording)

The Application of Non-Targeted Mobile Air Monitoring to Assess Volatile Organic Compounds in Non-Occupational Settings

Eva Vitucci, PhD
Texas A&M University

January 14, 2026 - Joint Webinar with Mixtures Specialty Section (See Recording)

Mixture Toxicity and Kidney Health in Vulnerable Communities

Nishad Jayasundra, PhD
Duke University

December 10, 2025 - Joint Webinar with Biological Modeling Specialty Section (See Recording)

Opportunities and Challenges of Physiologically Based Kinetic Model-based Quantitative *In Vitro* to *In Vivo* Extrapolation in a Next Generation Risk Assessment Paradigm

Nynke Kramer, PhD
Wageningen University

November 12, 2025 - Joint Webinar with Computational Toxicology Specialty Section (See Recording)

Data Interoperability in Toxicology: Supporting Source-to-Outcome Assessment

Dave Hines, PhD
RTI International

October 8, 2025 - (See Recording)

Using Defined Approaches (DAs) to Predict the Human Skin Sensitization Potential of Chemicals Previously Untested in NAMs

Martyn Chilton, PhD, Principal Scientist, Lhasa Limited, United Kingdom
Darren Kidd, PhD, Scientific Specialist, Labcorp Early Development Laboratories

September 10, 2025 - Joint Webinar with Mixtures Specialty Section (See Recording)

Student Award Recipients: Assessment Approaches to Wildfire Mixtures

Kyle Burns, Oregon State University, MixSS 2025 Best Abstract Recipient
Sarah Miller, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, RASS 2025 John Doull Award Recipient





RASS would like to extend a HUGE thank you to **Annie Jarabek** for her continued leadership in coordinating and facilitating the RASS Webinar Series.

Please share your ideas on the topics for the RASS Webinar Series.

2026 SOT ANNUAL MEETING

SOT SAN DIEGO
65th Annual Meeting & ToxExpo
MARCH 22-25, 2026

Congratulations to RASS Members Receiving 2026 SOT Awards



Achievement Award

Katie Paul Friedman, PhD
UL Research Associates,
Morrisville, NC



Arnold J. Lehman Award

Bob Sonawane, PhD
Independent Consultant,
Newberry, FL



Undergraduate Development Program Advisor Travel Award

Rosalynn Quinones, PhD
Marshall University,
Huntington, WV

2026 STUDENT AND POSTDOCTORAL AWARDS

RASS Trainee Awards include the John Doull Risk Assessment Endowment Awards and Perry J. Gehring Best Abstract Risk Assessment Endowment Awards. Joint awards with other Specialty Sections include the Anderson-Clewell Trainee Award (with the Biological Modeling Specialty Section) and Robert J. Rubin Student Travel Award (with the Mechanisms Specialty Section).



The applications were scored by volunteers in four categories:

1. Application to risk assessment
2. Quality and significance of the research project
3. Scientific quality of the abstract
4. Significance of the findings described in the abstract

This year's applications included:

- John Doull Risk Assessment Endowment Award: **17**
- Perry J. Gehring Best Abstract Risk Assessment Endowment Award: **17**
  - **11** Graduate Student Applications; Postdoctoral Applications: **6**
- RASS-BMSS joint Andersen-Clewell Trainee Award: **10**
- RASS-MechSS joint Robert J. Rubin Student Travel Award: **31**

2026 STUDENT AND POSTDOCTORAL AWARD WINNERS

Perry J. Gehring Best Abstract Awards



Graduate Student Awardee: Ibrahim Alshammari, *Texas A&M University*
Quantitative estimates of toxicodynamic variability for new approach methodologies-based systemic safety toolbox using a population-based human *in vitro* model. Poster G516. NAMs *In Vitro* I.



Postdoctoral Awardee: Nicole McNabb-Kelada, *RTI International*
Integrating inter-individual variability and cellular interactions: Transcriptomic responses to acrolein in a donor-matched lung co-culture model. Poster J659. NAMs *In Vitro* III.

John Doull Risk Assessment Award



Graduate Student Awardee: Chloe Wray, *Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ*
The zebrafish microbiome modulates neurobehavioral responses to azoxystrobin. Poster C254. Neurotoxicity: Developmental.



Postdoctoral Awardee: Brittany Rickard, *North Carolina State University*
Photodynamic priming (PDP) mitigates chemoresistance and mitochondrial enhancements in ovarian cancer cells with a history of chronic PFAS exposure. Poster D270. PFAS II.

RASS-MechSS Robert J. Rubin Award

Lalitha Karchalla, *Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine*
Unveiling oral vulnerability: A human 3D model of sulfur mustard-induced epithelial injury. Poster G510. NAMs: *In Vitro* I.

RASS-BMSS Anderson-Clewell Award



Pei-Yu Wu, *University of Florida*
Systematic evidence mapping of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS): A large language model-based toxicokinetic database. Poster A149. Computational Toxicology.

Research Institute for Fragrance Materials (RIFM) Trainee Award



Mackenzie Allison, *Oregon State University*
Comparative toxicity of alkylated and parent polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in primary human bronchial epithelial cells. Poster H596. NAMs: *In Vitro* II.

International Society of Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology (ISRTP)-RASS Awards

Award winners will be announced at the RASS Reception during the 2026 SOT meeting in San Diego on Tuesday, March 24th, 6:00 - 7:30 PM at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, Marriott Grand Ballroom 5

2026 BEST ABSTRACT AWARD

The initial pool of **272** abstracts included all abstracts with "risk assessment" as a keyword or category. This list was refined to 28 abstracts by the RASS Executive Committee based on relevance to risk assessment and significance of the work.

The abstracts were blinded and scored by volunteers in four categories:

1. Application to risk assessment
2. Scientific significance of the research/project focus
3. Quality of the abstract
4. Significance of the findings described in the abstract



BEST ABSTRACT WINNER

A. Bassan et al. Innovatune Srl. *Integrating Large Language Models into Toxicological Risk Assessment: Opportunities and Challenges*. Abstract 4348. Poster A100. AI/Machine Learning II.

ADDITIONAL TOP 10 ABSTRACTS

- **Y. Chen** et al. U.S. EPA. *Leveraging Machine Learning for Efficient Prediction of Acute Inhalation Toxicity of Environmental Chemicals.* Abstract 4400. Poster A153. Computational Toxicology.
- **H. Gehrke** et al. Eurofins Medical Device Testing. *Tailored E&L Strategies for Hyaluronic Acid Medical Devices: A Foundation for Toxicological Risk Assessment.* Abstract 3082. Poster B185. Medical Devices I.
- **R. Justiniano** et al. Wella Company. *Safety evaluation of hair straightening products containing glyoxylic acid with respect to formaldehyde release and oxalic acid formation.* Abstract 3326. Poster F466. Risk Assessment I.
- **M. Hargrove** et al. Syngentq. *Modernizing Inhalation Testing and Assessment: Bridging Exposure Modeling with Regulatory Acceptance.* Abstract 3344. Poster F487. New Approach Methods: General.
- **S. Kim** et al. Nonclinical Clinical Institute. *Non-Clinical Safety Evaluation of Exosomes derived from Human Adipose Tissue-Derived Mesenchymal Stem/Stromal Cells.* Abstract 4056. Poster G530. Safety Assessment: Pharmaceutical Drug Development I.
- **L. Harrington** et al. Medtronic Inc. *PFAS in Chronically Implanted Cardiac Leads.* Abstract 3751. Poster B183. Medical Devices II.
- **G. Patlewicz** et al. ToxStrategies, LLC. *Investigating the feasibility of deriving new environmentally relevant Thresholds of Toxicological Concern (TTCs) from estimated human equivalent benchmark dose values.* Abstract 4013. Poster F485. New Approach Methods: Computational.
- **C. Novello** et al. Innovatune Srl. *Integrating LLMs for PDE derivation: best practices and case studies*. Abstract 4361. Poster A113. AI/Machine Learning II.
- **D. Kougias** et al. K2 Toxicology and Integrated Risk Assessment, LLC. *Risk Assessment and Pharmacokinetic Modeling of Incidental Ingestion of Ethanol from Mouthwash.* Abstract 3307. Poster F447. Risk Assessment I.
- **A. Juan-Garcia** et al. University of Valencia. *Risk Assessment of Mycotoxin Exposure Through Plant-Based Meat Alternatives from Spain and Portugal*. Abstract 3658. Poster M834. Food Safety/Nutrition.

2026 BEST PAPER AWARDS

Criteria for eligibility:

- Paper must either demonstrate application of risk assessment or advance the science of risk assessment
- Paper must be published during 2025
- At least one author must be an SOT member

Candidate papers were identified via 2 sources:

  - Nomination by RASS members by January 6, 2026
  - Risk assessment papers published in SOT's official journal, *Toxicological Sciences*
    - Searched by keyword: "assessment"
    - >90 papers were screened and categorized by Award Chairs
- Combined: 7 nominations and 15 publications from *Toxicological Sciences*
- RASS volunteers reviewed and voted for the top papers for each category



The papers were scored by volunteers using the following categories:

- Relevance to risk assessment
- Novelty of research and/or application
- Significance research and/or application

Best Paper Advancing the Science of Risk Assessment

Paul Friedman K*, Thomas RS, Wambaugh JF, Harrill JA, Judson RS, Shafer TJ, Williams AJ, Lee JJ, Loo LH, Gagné M, Long AS, Barton-Maclaren TS, Whelan M, Bouhifd M, Rasenberg M, Simanainen U, Sobanski T. Integration of new approach methods for the assessment of data-poor chemicals. *Toxicol Sci.* 2025 205(1):74-105. doi: 10.1093/toxsci/kfaf019. *Corresponding author: Katie Paul Friedman, UL Research Associates

Best Paper Demonstrating the Application of Risk Assessment

De Abrew KN*, Selman BG, Shobair M, Zhang X, Allemang AJ, Pfuhler S*. Exploration of oxidative stress-mediated genetic toxicology modes of action using a pathway analysis, Connectivity Mapping, and transcriptional benchmark dosing-based framework. *Toxicol Sci.* 2025 208(2):401-417. doi: 10.1093/toxsci/kfaf137. *Corresponding authors: Nadira De Abrew and Stefan Pfuhler, The Proctor & Gamble Company

2027 RASS AWARDS

It's never too soon to start thinking about who to nominate for 2027 RASS Awards! Stay tuned for the instruction to nominate yourself or a well-deserving toxicologist for one of the following awards:

- Best Overall Risk Assessment Abstract Award
- Best Published Paper Advancing the Science of Risk Assessment Award
- Best Published Paper Demonstrating an Application of Risk Assessment Award
- Perry J. Gehring Best Graduate Student Abstract Risk Assessment Endowment Award
- Perry J. Gehring Best Postdoctoral Fellow Abstract Risk Assessment Endowment Award
- John Doull Risk Assessment Endowment Award
- Robert J. Rubin Student Travel Award (Joint with MechSS)
- Andersen-Clewell Trainee Award (Joint with BMSS)

More details on each award can be found here.

RASS EVENTS AND SPONSORED SESSIONS IN SOT SAN DIEGO

RASS Meeting/Reception
Tuesday, March 24th ~ 6:00 - 7:30 PM
Marriott Grand Ballroom 5



You reached out - we listened!! This year's reception will have more time for networking due to the new virtual business meeting option (RASS conducted its business meeting on February 6th—thank you to those that attended!). There will be a brief awards ceremony at 7:00 PM. Award winners will have their posters on display and will be available for discussion from 6:40-7:00 PM. All remaining time is allotted for networking.

This event is open to all in-person Annual Meeting attendees interested in joining the Section, regardless of current membership status with the hosting group. **Award winners and award committee members: remember to see a member of the RASS executive committee for your free drink ticket.**

RISK ASSESSMENT POSTER SESSIONS

- Risk Assessment I. Monday, March 23rd 9:15-11:45 AM. Exhibit Hall B, Convention Center; Chairs: Sachin Bhusari, Coca-Cola Company; Jay Harriman, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc.
- Risk Assessment II. Tuesday, March 24th 9:15-11:45 AM. Exhibit Hall B, Convention Center; Chairs: Jennifer Rayner, SRC Inc.; Rayetta Henderson, ToxStrategies LLC

RASS-ENDORSED CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

- Applications of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence Approaches to Advance Toxicology and Environmental Health Sciences AM03. Sunday, 8:15-12 noon. Chair(s): Zhoumeng Lin, University of Florida; and Nicole Kleinstreuer, NIH.
- Chemical Emergencies: Emergency Response, Toxicology, and Exposure Considerations AM05. Sunday, 8:15am-12 noon. Chair(s): Robert Nocco, Consultant; and Nadia Moore, JS Held LLC.
- Systematic Methods for AOP Development and Application: New Technologies and Tools AM06. Sunday, 8:15am-12 noon. Chair(s): Bette Meek, University of Ottawa; and Alexandra Schaffert, Tampereen Yliopisto (Tampere University), Finland.
- Evolution of an OECD Guideline and Application Beyond; Integrated NAMs for Skin Sensitisation Hazard and Point of Departure for Risk Assessment PM07. Sunday, 1:15 pm-5pm. Chair(s): Emily Reinke, Inotiv; and Georgia Reynolds, Unilever.

RASS-SPONSORED JOINT MENTORING SESSION

SOT NetworX Night: Monday, March 23. 7:30-9:00 PM. Marriott Grand Ballroom 4. The event features a brief introduction to key toxicology career resources; a networking session with professionals nominated by SOT Component Groups; opportunity to learn about career paths, transitions, and positions directly from mentors. Sign up for this free event when registering for the Annual Meeting.

Special thanks to RASS members Kim Zaccaria, Vijay Kannappan, Bill Klaren, and Alberto Tohme for volunteering as mentors for this event!

RASS SPONSORED SESSIONS IN SOT SAN DIEGO (CONTINUED)

RASS-ENDORSED EDUCATION/CAREER DEVELOPMENT

- Earning Trust and Driving Impact: Lessons in Communicating Risk to Diverse Audiences Amid Widespread Science Skepticism Wednesday March 25th 11AM-12:30PM, Ballroom 6E, Chair: Colleen McLoughlin, Enhesa

RASS-ENDORSED WORKSHOPS

- Reevaluating Adversity and the Maximum Tolerated Dose in the Modern Regulatory Environment. Monday, March 23th 2PM-4:45PM. Room 8. Chair: Fiona Sewell, NC3Rs, United Kingdom Co-Chair: Emily Richmond, Exponent, United Kingdom
- The Quality Awakens: New Frontiers in the Appraisal of *In Vitro* Mechanistic Study Quality/Reliability Tuesday, March 24th 8AM-10:15AM. Room 8. Chair: Amy Wang, NIEHS Co-Chair: Anna Beronius, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden
- Integrating *In Vitro* Data and PBK Modeling for Exposure-Led Risk Assessment Tuesday, March 24th 1PM-2:30PM. Ballroom 6D, Chair: Nynke Kramer, Wageningen University, Netherlands Co-Chair: Marco Siccardi, ESQlabs GmbH, Germany
- Endocrine Disruption Safety Assessment Approaches for Cosmetics Wednesday, March 25th 1:30PM-4:15PM, Room 7B, Chair: Karma C. Fussell, Wella Company, Germany Co-Chair: Robert Landsiedel, BASF SE, Germany

RASS-ENDORSED SYMPOSIA

- NAM *In Vitro* Assessment of Intestinal Metabolism to Inform PBK Modeling of Bioavailability and Systemic Exposure, Wednesday, March 25th 8-10:15 AM, Ballroom 6F, Chair: John Wambaugh, US EPA
- Efforts Toward Building Aligned Physiologically Based Kinetic Models for Thyroid Hormone Homeostasis in Rodents and Humans: Can We Develop "Supermodels"? Monday, March 23rd 9:15AM-12 noon, Ballroom 6E, Chair: Brandy Riffle, BASF Agricultural Solutions
- It's Complicated: The Messy Relationship Between Environmental Exposures and Metabolic Health, Tuesday, March 24th 1PM-2:30PM, Room 1B, Chair: Juliane Beier, University of Pittsburgh
- Human Health Risk Assessments of Biopesticides: Evaluating Safety for Agricultural Use, Wednesday, March 25th 1:30-4:15PM, Ballroom 6F, Chair: Leah Zorrilla, Bayer Crop Science

RASS-ENDORSED INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS

- Incorporating Toxicology Principles Essential to Establishing Plausibility of Environmental Epidemiology Studies, Tuesday, March 24th 8AM-10:15AM, Room 1B, Chair: John Doherty, Independent Toxicologist
- Advancing Risk Communication: Strengthening Collaborations Between Toxicologists and Exposure Scientists in the Face of a Changing Regulatory Landscape, Wednesday, March 25th 1:30PM-4:15PM, Ballroom 6B, Chair: Neeraja Erraguntla, American Chemistry Council

RASS-ENDORSED ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS

- Do We Need a Number, a Pathway, or Both? Applying Transcriptomics for Chemical Hazard Assessment Tuesday, March 24th 4:30PM-5:30PM, Ballroom 6E, Chair: Jesse Rogers, Merck & Co. Inc.
- Does Toxicology Need a Reformation? A Debate About Scientific Integrity, Wednesday, March 25th 8AM-9:30AM, Ballroom 6E, Chair: Christopher Borgert, Applied Pharmacology and Toxicology Inc.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are numerous opportunities for RASS members to get involved with RASS-related activities. Fall and Winter are busy times, as the reviewing and judging of student and postdoctoral award applications and best abstract and paper awards are in full force. Your help is greatly needed! The benefits of serving as a RASS volunteer include the following:

- ☑ Getting your name and your ability to help recognized. When you get involved, your willingness to serve and help gets recognized. This is especially important for graduate students and postdocs who are looking to get more involved in SOT.
- ☑ Working with colleagues. In volunteering, you have the opportunity to work on committees with people that you might not otherwise have the opportunity to work with, in a fun and collegial way.
- ☑ It is an AWESOME learning opportunity. When you review award applications and candidates for best paper, you have the opportunity to learn about recent developments in risk assessment. Helping out and learning about risk assessment—what more can one ask for?

Available Volunteer Opportunities:

- Student awards selection committee (Jan–Feb)
- Best abstracts selection committee (Jan–Feb)
- Best papers selection committee (Jan–Feb)







RASS would like to extend a HUGE thank you to **Alea Goodmanson** for her continued leadership in coordination of the volunteer pool.

If you would like to enter your name into the RASS Volunteer Pool, please email Alea Goodmanson (aleagoodmanson@chevron.com).

2026 Award Committees

Student & Postdoctoral

Kathryn Page (Chair)*
Alexandra Cordova (Chair)*
Kristin Noell
Elaine Freeman
Jalissa Nguyen
Casey Fisher
Mary Francis
Bindu Prabhakar
Barbara Wetmore
Jon Urban
Theresa Onwordi

Best Abstract

Kathryn Page (Chair)*
Alexandra Cordova (Chair)*
Jalissa Nguyen
Matthew Wolter
Norm Healey
Penelope Fenner-Crisp
Elaine Freeman
Jennifer Rayner
Mary Francis
Bindu Prabhakar
Barbara Wetmore

Best Paper

Kan Shao (Chair)*
Melissa Heintz (Chair)*
Penelope Fenner-Crisp
Sol Bobst
Jennifer Rayner
Alberto Tohme
Casey Fisher
Matthew Wolter
Kristin Noell
Norm Healey
Stefanie O'Neal

*RASS Executive Committee Representative

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!!

RASS OFFICERS 2025–2026

Thank you to the RASS Officers, who dedicate their time and effort to the success of RASS and RASS members. To get to know your RASS Officers better, we asked each of them to share their favorite travel destination. See their responses below!

Past President



Bernard Gadagbui
TERA

Favorite Travel Destination: Always Ghana, home is home.

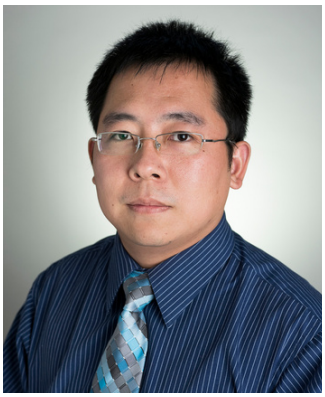
President



Anne Loccisano
Exponent, Inc.

Favorite Travel Destination: Anywhere in California.

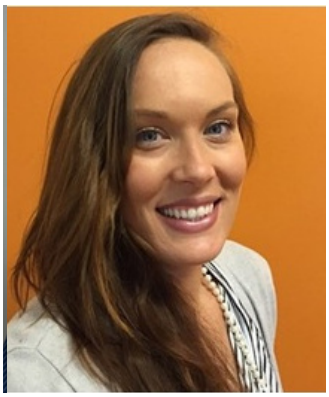
Vice President



Kan Shao
Indiana University

Favorite Travel Destination: Beautiful tropical islands, like the Maldives and Tahiti.

Vice President-Elect



Kathryn Page
The Clorox Company

Favorite Travel Destination: Anywhere with a beach (and preferably warm ocean).

Secretary/ Treasurer



Nikolaos Georgiadis
European Commission - DG Environment

Favorite Travel Destination: Lailias Mountain in Serres, Greece and Lapland, Finland.

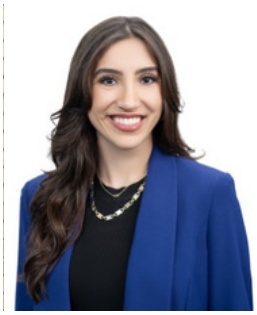
Senior Councilor



Melissa Heintz
ToxStrategies, LLC

Favorite Travel Destination: Kauai, Hawaii.

Junior Councilor



Alexandra Cordova
ExxonMobil Biomedical Sciences, Inc.

Favorite Travel Destination: Anywhere in the mountains, especially Estes Park, CO.

Postdoctoral Representative



Chi-Yun Chen
University of Florida

Favorite Travel Destination: Japan & Italy have been my favorites so far — incredible food, safe environment, distinct cultures, and beautifully preserved history!

Graduate Student Representative



Disha Gupta
Rutgers University

Favorite Travel Destination: Kashmir, India.