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Dr. Hodge-Bell is an Associate Fellow and Senior Toxicologist at Monsanto Company. She is responsible for providing technical expertise in support of commercialization and regulatory submissions for biotechnology-derived and crop protection products. Dr. Hodge-Bell earned her doctorate degree in Biomedical Science (Pharmacology and Toxicology) from Meharry Medical College and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology. As an active member in the Society of Toxicology, Dr. Hodge-Bell serves on several elected and appointed committees. Currently, she is a member of the Committee on Diversity Initiatives and serves as the 2017-2018 Chair. She is also a member of the Toxicologist of African Origin Special Interest Group and served as its President in 2014-2015. Dr. Hodge-Bell's technical excellence, leadership style and passion for equipping the next generation of scientists often drives her to participate in outreach efforts such as speaking at colleges and universities, serving as a Scientific Ambassador within the community and participating in mentorship programs.

Irene Abraham



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Dr. Abraham is a Director in the Scientific and Regulatory Affairs Department at JT International SA in Geneva Switzerland. Prior to this she worked as a Toxicologist for Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment (now the Risk Science Center a University of Cincinnati College of Medicine). Overall, Dr. Abraham has more than 9 years of regulatory toxicology experience in both non-profit (consulting) and industry (fast moving consumer goods) sectors. She has a PhD in Toxicology from UNC Chapel Hill and a BS in Chemistry from Virginia State University. Dr. Abraham is a diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology and is on the Eurotox Register. She has been a member of SOT since 2002. Prior to being appointed to the Committee on Diversity Initiatives in 2016, she served CDI as both an Undergraduate Program Peer and Host Mentor.

Patrick Allard



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Patrick Allard received his BSc from University of Toulouse, France, and his MSc in Biology of Aging from University of Paris-Rene Descartes. He completed his PhD degree in Biology from the McGill University, Canada, in the laboratory of Dr. Hugh Clarke where he explored the genetic regulation of mammalian oogenesis. This work was followed by two concurrent postdoctoral fellowship positions in the laboratories of Dr. Clifford Tabin and Dr. Monica Colaiacovo in the Department of Genetics at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Allard's work resides at the intersection of genetics, epigenetics, developmental biology, and environmental health. His research on the effect of environmental exposures on reproduction has been published in several high profile journals including Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), PLOS Genetics and Environmental Health Perspectives. Dr. Allard has received multiple awards and grants including the Colgate-Palmolive research grant, the Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Research grant, and most notably, a NIH K99/R00 Pathway to Independence Award as well as a Burroughs Wellcome Innovations in Regulatory Science Award. He was also received a Global ToxScholar Grant from the Society of Toxicology in 2011 and 2014.

Alicia Timme-Laragy



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Dr. Alicia Timme-Laragy is an Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Sciences in the School of Public Health and Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst (UMASS). She also holds faculty positions in the Models to Medicine program in the Institute for Applied Life Sciences, the Molecular Cell Biology graduate program, and is an adjunct faculty member in the Biology Department at UMASS. She is also a Guest Investigator at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. She received her PhD in 2007 under the mentorship of Dr. Richard Di Giulio at Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment through the Integrated Toxicology and Environmental Health Program. Her postdoctoral work was conducted at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in the Biology Department with Dr. Mark Hahn. Both her graduate and postdoctoral work contributed to ongoing projects in the Superfund Research Program at Duke University and at Boston University. Her laboratory at UMASS (established in 2013) uses the zebrafish and cell culture models to study mechanisms of oxidative stress and antioxidant defenses during embryonic development, with a focus on the pancreas. She is a member of the Society of Toxicology, the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC), and the Society of Redox Biology and Medicine. She serves on the Board of Directors for the North Atlantic Chapter of SETAC, and the Scientific Advisory Board for the EPA National Estuary Program at Narragansett Bay. She lives in Belchertown, MA, with her husband and three children.

Courtney L. McGinnis



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Courtney L. McGinnis, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Biological Sciences and Associate Professor of Medical Sciences at Quinnipiac University, where she has taught: Physiology, Physiological Models of Human Disease, Endocrinology and Anatomy and Physiology. She maintains an active lab whose focus is to determine molecular mechanism of actions of endocrine disruptors, while working toward an understanding of zebrafish sexual differentiation. In addition, she has received grants from the Greater New Haven Community Foundation to investigate the presence of phthalates in the Quinnipiac River and to determine the impact of the chemicals on a local fish species, the Connecticut Community Foundation to investigate the presence of phthalates and plasticizers in the Naugatuck River. Dr. McGinnis received her doctorate in Physiology and Neurobiology from the University of Connecticut in 2011. She has served on the NESOT executive board as the student representative (2010-2011), K-12 Liaison (2011-2016) and secretary/treasurer (2014-2016). In addition, she is a member of the Bristol Myers Squibb Center for Science Teaching and Learning advisory board and has broad interests in supporting Connecticut Science Teachers and mentoring undergraduate students.

Betina J. Lew



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Dr. Betina J. Lew is a board certified toxicologist (DABT) with broad experience in the consumer goods industry. She is currently a senior manager of Consumer Safety at Reckitt Benckiser where she manages the US team and oversees the safety of a diverse portfolio. She had the opportunity of working as a toxicologist and safety manager in other consumer goods and cosmetic companies. Dr. Lew was a postdoctoral trainee in toxicology at the Department of Environmental Medicine, University of Rochester (NY) for more than four years. She earned a PhD through a joint program from São Paulo State and Michigan State University, a MS from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel) and a BS from São Paulo State University. Since 2006, Dr. Lew has been a member of the SOT and served on several committees. She is currently the President-Elect of Women in Toxicology and Senior Councilor of Risk Assessment Specially Session. She was a member of CRAD (2013-2016), President of the Hispanic Organization of Toxicologists (HOT) from 2011 – 2013, their Councilor (2009–2011) and Chair of the Awards and Education committees (2010–2012). She has also served as the Chair (2008–2010) for the Postdoctoral Assembly (PDA). Throughout her career, Dr. Lew received many awards and grants support. Dr. Lew is a strong supporter of trainees at the SOT. She co-chaired numerous sessions focused on career development of younger toxicologists and mentored several students and postdocs.