

SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY, INC.
1976-1977



President: Robert A. Scala

PRESIDENT: Robert A. Scala
PRESIDENT-ELECT: Harold M. Peck
SECRETARY: Gale C. Boxill
TREASURER: Hans P. Drobeck
PAST-PRESIDENT: Seymour L. Friess
COUNCIL: Officers and Councilors, Perry J. Gehring (1975-1977), Tom S. Miya (1975-1977), Robert L. Dixon (1976-1978), Frederick W. Gebme (1976-1978)

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Elected Committees

Membership Committee

Robert A. Neal (1974-1977)*
George Levinskas (1975-1978)
Jiro K. Kodama (1976-1979)

Finance Committee

Hans P. Drobeck*
Henry Sherman (1975-1977)
Robert J. Weir (1975-1977)
Thomas D. Darby (1976-1978)
Margaret Hitchcock (1976-1978)

Educational Committee

Carl C. Smith (1975-1977)*
James E. Long (1975-1977)
Stata Norton (1976-1978)
Andrew L. Reeves (1976-1978)

Appointed Committees

Awards Committee

Seymour L. Friess*
Robert L. Dixon
Frederick W. Oehme

Board of Publications

Bernard A. Becker (1974-1977)*
H.P.K. Agersborg, Jr. (1975-1978)
Robert E. Menzer (1976-1979)
Gabriel L. Plaa, Editor TAP
Robert A. Scala, President
Harold M. Peck, Auditor

Program Committee

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Gale C. Boxill, Secretary
Steven D. Cohen
Robert T. Drew
Elliott S. Harris
Morris M. Joselow
K.S. Khera
James M. McNerney
Joseph J. McPhillips
John H. Mennear
Richard S. Waritz, Registrar

Nominating Committee

Sheldon D. Murphy*
E. Paul Denine
John Doull
Donald D. McCollister
Oscar M. Moreno

Historian

Harry W. Hays

Placement

Mark Hite*
William E. Rinehart

Committee for Legislative Assistance

Joseph F. Borzelleca*
Victor A. Drill
Wayland J. Hayes, Jr.
Seymour L. Friess

Steering Committee for the First International Congress on Toxicology

Sheldon D. Murphy*
Leon Golberg
Harold C. Grice
Gabriel L. Plaa

*Chairman

Technical Committee

Hanspeter R. Witschi*
Robert G. Tardiff
Tibor Balazs
Evelyn G. Burtis
John L. Egle, Jr.
Martin R. Gilman
A. Wallace Hayes
Irwin A. Heyman
Benjamin A. Jackson
Gerald L. Kennedy, Jr.
Charles F. Reinhardt
Thomas E. Shellenberger

ad hoc **Committees****Advisory Committee on Acquisition of Toxicological Data on Pesticides for Food Additives, World Health Org.**

Harold C. Grice*
Sheldon D. Murphy
Milton Eisler
William Durham
Wayland J. Hayes, Jr.
Frank C. Lu
Donald D. McCollister
Emil Poulsen

LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES

***Representative to Drug
Research, NAS-NRC***

Victor A. Drill

***Liaison with European Society
of Toxicology***

Leon Golberg

Bo Holmstedt

***Liaison with National Society
for Medical Research***

Paul J. Garvin

***Representative to Science
Advisory Committee***

***Registry of Tissue Reactions
to Drugs, NAS-NRC***

Harold M. Peck

***Liaison with American
Industrial Hygiene***

Association

Gale C. Boxill

Harold M. Peck

Robert A. Scala

***Liaison with Environmental
Mutagens Society***

John H. Weisburger

***Representative to Scientific Advisory Board National
Center for Toxicological Research***

Perry J. Gehring

SIXTEENTH YEAR OF THE SOCIETY

1976-1977

This was the first time in the history of the Society that it crossed the border and held its annual meeting in Toronto, Canada, on March 27-30, 1977. It is interesting to note that, 14 years after its founding in 1908, The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics met in Toronto in 1922. Drs. Banting, Best and others reported on the bioassay of insulin, and wives of the local committee served tea during the demonstrations. In all, 38 papers were scheduled for presentation.

Dr. Scala, President of SOT, reviewed the actions taken by Council and the reports of several committees. He announced the appointment of Mr. William McCormick as Executive Secretary and said his duties would include such things as (1) maintaining the master file of names and addresses of the members; (2) printing the program for the annual meeting, the minutes and Newsletter; (3) mailing abstracts and ballots and collecting them for the tellers; (4) assisting the Secretary and Registrar in supervising the details for the annual meeting. This was an important move and would greatly relieve the Secretary, Dr. Gale Boxill, of many of the details that were required in a society that now numbered approximately 1000 members. Dr. Scala noted that at the opening of the business meeting 1034 persons had registered, of which 431 were from the United States, 83 from overseas, 54 from Canada, 118 students, 238 non-members and 10 members of the press. He expressed his thanks to the Secretary for the splendid job he had done in keeping the members informed of the activities, upcoming meetings, courses and numerous items via the Newsletter. He emphasized three major areas of concern. First, Communications. The Environmental Mutagens Society would again meet with the Society of Toxicology in 1978. An invitation was extended to the Teratology Society to form a "cluster meeting." The first fall meeting with the American Society of Pharmacology was scheduled for 1978 in Houston.

The very successful brochure "Toxicology as a Profession" was revised and reprinted so that communication with future professionals was not neglected. The second area was Information and Support. The Society, he thought, should be the leading spokesman for toxicology and therefore exchange of information should extend to other professions, government agencies, the Congress and the public. Under the aegis of the Technical Committee of the Society, a position paper was prepared on Certification of Toxicologists, Accreditation of Toxicology Laboratories, and Good Laboratory Practices. Three subcommittees met in Dr. Fred Oehme's laboratory at Kansas State University for three days preparing their reports and concluded:

- (1) SOT should sponsor a program of accreditation of toxicology facilities.
- (2) SOT should sponsor the establishment of an independent Board to certify toxicologists.
- (3) SOT should establish a set of basic principles and practices to assure scientific reliability of data from toxicity studies. This was regarded by Council as a matter of utmost importance and as time passed all were fully implemented.

Dr. Scala called the third area "New Ventures." Chief among these were the efforts of the

Society of Toxicology in collaboration with the European Society of Toxicology in bringing about the First International Congress on Toxicology. There had been numerous references to this idea over the years but now it finally became a reality and the first Congress was scheduled to open its meeting from March 30 to April 2, 1977.

As the number of members of SOT increased, so also did the size of the meeting and number of papers presented. Correspondence increased to the point where the work of the Secretary became a full-time job, so on September 1, 1976, a contract was signed with the American Industrial Hygiene Association that would allow their Executive Secretary, Mr. William McCormick, to handle many of the things previously required of the Society. The cost of operating the Society of Toxicology greatly increased over the years and it became necessary to seek supplemental income. Early in September, a letter was sent to senior executives of some 200 companies requesting Corporate Membership and annual support of \$1,000 each. In the Newsletter dated December 1976, 21 companies were reported as Corporate Members. By March 25, 1977, an additional ten were added to the list. The Council held an all-day meeting in January 1977 to develop a long-range planning program that would keep the momentum of achievement on a steady course.

The business meetings were now taking more time for the President's report, the Treasurer's review of the financial status of the Society and individual reports of the various committees, so that little time was left for members to raise questions about problems that concerned them. Dr. Scala announced that for the first time an "Issues" session was scheduled for Tuesday at 4:45 p.m. and the Officers and Councilors would be available for discussion of pertinent questions with the membership in an open forum. This relieved the pressure on the business meeting but it didn't really attract the attention of as many of the members as was anticipated.

The Treasurer, Dr. Hans Drobeck, having completed his term of office, gave an excellent resume of the financial status of the Society. Income for 1976 was at an all-time high, \$120,000, compared to \$78,000 for the previous year. The principal sources of income were the annual meeting, membership dues and corporate associate donations. These accounted for about 90% of the total. Other sources were the placement service, sales of the laboratory directory, and the carcinogenesis symposium held in 1976. Expenses, however, were also at a record high, \$110,000 compared to \$74,000 in 1975. He said there was a fairly large increase in donations, especially to the International Congress, and the Council should continue to pursue conservation in fiscal matters and look for ways to keep the overhead at a minimum.

The Chairman of the Council's Committee on Accreditation, Certification and Good Laboratory Practices, Dr. Fred Oehme, submitted a detailed report on the charge given him by the Council. He set up three subcommittees, each having its own chairman, and selected members from the Society membership who were highly qualified to consider the many problems to be encountered in each of the three areas. A working meeting of the three groups was held at Kansas State University during the week of September 20th to review and develop documents for consideration and approval by the Council for distribution to the membership prior to the March meeting in Toronto. It was a formidable task but there was never a lack of enthusiasm to get the job done.

The Subcommittee on Accreditation of Laboratory Facilities was fully aware of comments, both private and public, about the credibility of laboratories conducting toxicological investigations, and the controversy it generated throughout the scientific community. Thus, the accreditation of laboratories became an important factor in building and maintaining public confidence in the evaluation of the safety of chemicals in the environment. The report by this subcommittee reviewed and recommended guidelines for the physical facilities that should be available in toxicology laboratories, administrative procedures and a mechanism for accreditation, including inspection procedures. Members of this Committee were: Robert Drew (Chairman); Daniel Couri; William D'Aguzzo; Harry W. Hays; Theodore O. King; Gordon Newell; Jerry M. Smith; and Robert Snyder.

The Subcommittee on Certification examined the qualifications deemed necessary for professional personnel working in toxicology, especially those involved in laboratory studies and evaluation. Standards and guidelines were developed for evaluating the experience and capability and the type of examination necessary to assure that individuals making judgments on toxicological matters would be qualified. The Committee recognized that there were many subspecialties in toxicology as evidenced by the diversity of training, experience and interest among the members of the Society but chose instead to address, initially, certification in the most general sense. It also recognized that such a program would require legal advice, and maintaining a Certifying Board would be expensive. It suggested that the Society of Toxicology underwrite the cost of establishing the Board, incorporation of procedures and its operation, until such time as it would become self-sustaining. Members of this Subcommittee: Robert B. Forney (Chairman); Robert V. Blanke; Herbert Blumenthal; Ted A. Loomis; Orville E. Paynter; Verard K. Rowe; and Anne M. Wolven.

The Subcommittee on Good Laboratory Practices examined the existing practices in laboratories dealing with toxicologic studies and developed guidelines on how these procedures should be organized to yield meaningful results. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration issued guidelines for Good Laboratory Practices in the *Federal Register* but the Society felt it was in a better position to define these areas of responsibility rather than a regulatory agency. The report outlined the basic principles and practices that would provide the basis for an objective review to assure the scientific reliability of the laboratory data. There were two main features in the guidelines: one was that the basic principles were presented in a clear and concise manner so as to be equally applicable to all types of toxicological studies. The second was that a mechanism be described to provide a technical review for specific subjects requiring (a) further detail, (b) a listing of acceptable procedures, (c) a consideration of controversial issues. Members of this Committee were: Emil A. Pfitzer (Chairman); John L. Emmerson; Harold C. Grice; Francis N. Marzulli; Paul A. Mattis; Stata Norton; Carrol S. Weil and Hanspeter R. Witschi.

The Board of Publications had on several occasions been asked to publish review articles but it consistently refused because of the urgent need to use the available pages for unpublished research manuscripts. This year the Specialized Information Service of the National Library of Medicine offered the services of the Toxicology Information Response Center (TIRC), Oak Ridge National Laboratory, to prepare bibliographies for selected authors to publish review articles in *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology*. The Board reviewed the offer but turned it down for the same reason it had done in the past.

The Chemical Rubber Company (CRC) proposed to publish a handbook on toxicity and hazard data of commercial compounds, patterned after the CRC Handbook Series in Clinical Laboratory Science. To get the information, they proposed to poll the Society of Toxicology membership and asked the Society (SOT) to appoint a three-member editorial board. The Board of Publications advised the Council not to accept the offer since a one-page format was inadequate for accurate and complete information; there would be no single editor; the three appointed members would find themselves deluged with paper work and no mention was made for funding the three positions with adequate remuneration.

In 1976, 220 articles and 240 abstracts were published in Volume four of the Journal containing 2467 pages. The average time for publication was still about 4 months. Dr. Agersborg, Jr. resigned from the Editorial Board after many years of service.

The Membership Committee received 104 applications, of which 50 were recommended for membership. Fifty-four were either rejected or deferred. Council took an unusual step in approving four candidates recommended for deferral. This would seem to indicate little progress over the years in satisfying the request for developing meaningful criteria for acceptance, such as publications, experience and letters from sponsors. Over the past 15 years each Committee set up its own criteria, which often resulted in more rigid interpretation of requirement for admission to the Society.

This was a very difficult year for the Program Committee because of the shortened annual meeting to two and one-half days. To accommodate as many papers as possible, the time for platform presentation was restricted to 12 minutes with 3 minutes for discussion. A total of 135 platform and 79 poster presentations were scheduled for Monday through Wednesday noon. A symposium on "Good Laboratory Practice" was held on Monday afternoon. Participants were: Drs. Pfitzer, Forney and Drew, each of whom was a Chairman of the Subcommittees on Accreditation, Certification and Good Laboratory Practices. This gave the membership an opportunity to express their views about those subjects which had been under consideration for a number of years and helped to shorten the time for final approval.

Dr. Mark Hite, Director of the Placement Service had a very impressive report on persons looking for employment and employers trying to fill positions. He and his associate, William Rinehart, processed 130 resumes, 75 employer positions, and 24 found employment. They collected \$1,684 less \$538.41 for office expenses. Through the constant urging of John Keller, the Council approved a fee schedule and the Service at last became self-sufficient; in fact it became an additional source of revenue for the Society. It must, however, be pointed out that the success of this activity was due in large measure to the financial support of the companies represented by Drs. Hite and Rinehart and those before them.

On Tuesday evening, March 29, the President, Dr. Robert Scala, presented the Education Award to Dr. Robert B. Forney, Department of Toxicology, Indiana University School of Medicine; the Frank R. Blood Award to Dr. George D. DeVincenzo, Ms. Carol J. Kaplan and Dr. J. Dedinas, for their article, "Characterization of the Metabolites of Methyl n-Butyl Ketone, Methyl iso-Butyl Ketone, and Methyl Ethyl Ketone in Guinea Pig Serum and Their Clearance" (*TAP* 36:511-522, 1976); the Achievement Award to Dr. James E. Gibson for his dedication to

toxicology as a teacher and independent investigator, and the Merit Award to Dr. Harry W. Hays for an outstanding career in toxicology. There being no guest speaker, Dr. Hays took the opportunity to review the early history of the Society of Toxicology.

On March 30, the First International Congress began at 1:30 p.m. with an introduction by Dr. Harold Grice, President of the Congress, and a welcoming address by the Honorable Marc Lalonde, Minister of National Health and Welfare. A total of 27 nations was represented. The first scientific meeting was a plenary session on Status and Problems in Toxicology.” This consisted of papers on toxicological aspects of the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat, and the drugs we take. It also included a discussion of toxicology in a tropical climate vs. toxicology in a cold climate. The meeting continued through Thursday, Friday, and Saturday morning, and covered a wide range of subjects with “Toxicology as a Predictive Science” as the theme. It was a well balanced program and demonstrated quite clearly that problems in toxicology were not limited to any one country, but were global. There were many poster sessions that attracted a great deal of interest as well as 19 exhibits. At the business meeting on Thursday afternoon plans were already underway to organize a Second International Congress and develop a more formalized international body.