

TWENTY-FIRST YEAR OF THE SOCIETY

1981-1982

The Society held its annual meeting at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel in Boston, MA, on February 22-26, 1982. The annual business meeting was scheduled for 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, at which time the President and chairmen of selected committees reported on their accomplishments during the year. It was announced that 2023 had registered for the meeting.

Dr. Forney expressed his thanks to the officers and council members for the support given him during the year. He reviewed the matter of dues and subscriptions to the journals and said serious thought would have to be given to the dues structure and would be discussed in an issue of the Newsletter. He noted that the new journal was doing very well but needed more manuscripts. Of particular interest to the members was the thrust of well-meaning but misdirected animal lovers to prevent the use of live animals in research. Although much has been done to protect human health through animal research, the Society must look for better ways to assure safety, but this would be a long range goal. Animals, he said, would have to be used and the Society should oppose with all its scientific vigor indiscriminate opposition that jeopardizes the acquisition of data critical for the interpretation of toxicity hazards. The Society, through its various committees, must be alert to proposed legislation to prevent the use of live animals. He said the Toxicology Laboratory Accreditation Board had accredited two laboratories and that several others had recently applied. This, he said, could only enhance the image of toxicology.

The Treasurer, Dr. Richard Waritz, presented a summary of net income from 1978 through 1981, which indicated that the Society's reserves had increased from \$142,000 to \$393,000. There was a progressive increase in the operating budget from \$124,000 to \$334,000 and he projected \$425,000 for 1982. Major sources of income were the same as in the past few years-annual meeting, interest, corporate associates and membership dues. It was also interesting to note that exhibits brought in \$92,475 and the "Refresher Courses," \$13,890. He projected continued growth of the reserve fund but at a lower rate because of increased costs of special projects and other activities.

To date, four Regional Chapters and three Specialty Sections have been approved and are in full operation as was evident by their activity during the scientific meeting. A fourth section on Reproductive Toxicology was in the process of submitting its application to Council for approval.

During calendar year 1981, the Editorial Office of the Journal (*TAP*) received 602 manuscripts, a record high. Four hundred eighty three were processed, with 186 being accepted (39%) and 297 rejected (61%). The remaining were still in review. The Editor, Dr. Wally Hayes, presented a list of 22 scientists for approval by the Board of Publications to become the editorial board and about 30 on the current list were terminated. Two additional associate editors were also approved. The launching of the new journal *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology* was a major concern of the Board. Four of the six 1981 issues were published and distributed to the membership. The ED₀₁ symposium was included in the January/February issue; the

organophosphate poisoning symposium made up the March/April issue; nine papers made up the May/June and eight papers made up the July/August issues. Nineteen papers had been typeset for authors' review and these would make up the 5th and 6th issues. Manuscripts were coming in at a fairly constant rate and it appeared that the decision of Council to publish a new journal was a prudent one. The Editors, Dr. William Carlton and Dr. Philip Watanabe, recommended the names of 30 scientists to serve on the Editorial Board and all were approved. Their terms were staggered in such a way as to allow annual review of one third of the membership.

The Technical Committee recommended that the Council should review its earlier attempts to compile professional data on SOT members who could be called upon for assistance. The time to respond to many issues is usually very short and the availability of such a registry would assure a timely response. They commented on three bills before the House of Representatives: "Humane Methods of Research Act" (H.R.220); "Research Modernification Act" (H.R.556); and "Protection of Animals in Research Act" (H.R.930).

The Committee on Professional Relations and Standards continued to provide a listing of suggested reference material for members of the Society interested in preparing for the American Board of Toxicology Certifying Examination. It also developed a list of education themes and topics, some of which were used to develop training sessions at the annual meetings. A listing of various education and training courses in the United States and Canada was compiled for use by the members of SOT. The Committee developed a concept of utilizing a recently published toxicology text as a basis for continuing education which would be called an "Author's Scientific Forum." This was announced in the October/November 1981 Newsletter and was used as a basis for one of the Refresher Courses at the meeting in Boston.

The Membership Committee reviewed 151 applications for membership in SOT and recommended 88 for active and 41 for associate memberships, while action on 22 was deferred. No student applications had been received.

As mentioned in previous years, the Education Committee has the responsibility for selecting the recipient of the Procter and Gamble Fellowship Award and this year chose Mr. Samson Chow, University of Iowa. A maximum of \$400 for travel of graduate students to the Annual Meeting was awarded to 22 individuals for a total of \$6,713. The Committee considered what was a potentially controversial issue regarding undergraduate and graduate degree-training programs and felt very strongly, as did the Tox-80 Commission, that toxicology was not an appropriate discipline for an undergraduate degree. Emphasis should be placed on obtaining sound training in mathematics, chemistry and physics. The Committee recommended graduate student participation in the annual meeting in whatever capacity would benefit their training program. The Council asked the Committee to consider whether industry should contribute a greater share in graduate training since Federal support was diminishing and they thought that since more and more toxicologists were needed by industry to meet the regulatory requirement of numerous government agencies, it would not be unreasonable to ask the industry to support current and future training programs.

This was another banner year for the Program Committee, for it received 675 papers for

presentation at the Scientific Sessions. These were divided into 23 Platform Sessions with 269 papers and 16 Poster Sessions with 406 posters. Six papers were withdrawn. On Sunday, February 22, the meeting opened with two Refresher Courses beginning at 8:00 a.m. One was "Basic Concepts of Immunotoxicity" and "Current Status of Scientific Considerations in Conducting Toxicological Research." The latter was a new concept previously referred to as an "Author's Scientific Forum" where the authors of the text book lead the discussion.

A symposium on "Drugs-Noise: Auditory Insults" was held on Tuesday morning, February 23, and was chaired by Dr. R. Don Brown, Louisiana University. A second symposium was held on Tuesday afternoon: "Peer Review and Scientific Decision Making" in which Congressman William C. Wampler, House of Representatives, and others from industry and academia participated. Dr. James E. Gibson was the moderator. A third symposium, "The Role of Cellular Redox Balance in Toxicity," was held Wednesday morning with Dr. Anne P. Autor, University of Iowa, as chairwoman. On Thursday morning a symposium on "Combustion Toxicology" was held from 8:30 to 11:30 with Dr. Charles Reinhardt serving as chairman. A joint symposium with the Environmental Mutagen Society was held on Friday afternoon on the topic, "Is There A Role Today For Mutagenicity Testing in the Safety Evaluation of Chemicals." The chairman was Dr. Gary Flamm and participating in the debate was Drs. David Brusick and Verne Ray speaking for the proposition and Drs. Albert Kolbye and Robert B. Cumming speaking against the proposition. The Rapporteur was Dr. Mortimer Mendelsohn of the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, California.

Specialty Sections on Mechanisms of Toxicity, Metals, Reproduction Toxicology, Neurotoxicology and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter met at various times for a business meeting or simply a social gathering to seek more members.

The Poster Sessions continued to grow and attract more and more attention and covered a wide range of subjects. These, along with the commercial exhibits, provided a common meeting place for members, nonmembers and guests.

This was the first year that the Society of Toxicology Directory of Members included not only the individual names and geographic distribution but an Employer List and members employed, a very useful addition to the Society's commitment to disseminate information. In addition, the Executive Secretary's office provided the members a listing of registrants at the 21st Annual Meeting in Boston, something that was done in the first few years of the Society but the rapid growth and lack of an official office soon made this impossible.

At the Past President's breakfast in 1964, it was recommended that, when appropriate, the Past Presidents should make their services available to Council on matters of national interest and concern on which they could express an opinion without implicating the Council or the Society as a whole. Regulatory agencies have, from time-to-time, made decisions to impose restrictions on the use of certain chemicals or to remove them from the market place based on procedures that violated sound practices used in toxicological research. On the other hand, protocols have been developed with little regard for their proper execution and this has led to serious errors in extrapolating animal data to man.

During the year 1980-81, Council established a Task Force of Past Presidents to review the matter of procedures and evaluation of results and to make suggestions that would minimize errors. The report was reviewed and approved by all Past Presidents and was published in *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology*, 2:181-187, 1982.

At the banquet on Thursday evening, February 25, President Dr. Robert Forney, presented the Frank R. Blood Award to Drs. Melvin Anderson, Michael L. Gargas, Robert A. Jones and Lawrence J. Jenkins, Jr. for their paper "Determination of the Kinetic Constants for Metabolism of Inhaled Toxicants *In Vivo* Using Gas Uptake Measurements" (*TAP* 65:489,1982). The Achievement Award was presented to Dr. F. Peter Guengerich, Associate Professor and Director, Center in Environmental Toxicology, Vanderbilt University for his work on chemical mechanisms for activation and detoxification of compounds of environmental interest. The Burroughs Wellcome Toxicology Scholar Award was presented to Dr. Curtis Dean Klaassen, Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University of Kansas Medical Center. The award carried with it \$105,000 payable over a three year period. The recipient of the Toxicology Education Award, jointly sponsored by the Society of Toxicology and the Forum for the Advancement of Toxicology, was Dr. Lloyd W. Hazleton for his outstanding contribution in advancing the science of toxicology through teaching. The Arnold J. Lehman Award was presented to Gary M. Williams, M.D., of the Naylor Dana Institute for Disease Prevention, for his scientific excellence in developing concepts on the impact of mechanisms for evaluating the risk of chemical carcinogens. The recipient of the Merit Award was Harold M. Peck, M.D., for a long and distinguished career in toxicology.

George H. Hitchings, Ph.D., President of the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, was awarded honorary membership in recognition of his years of activity in the scientific community and his pioneering work in developing a biomedical approach to the design of chemotherapeutic agents.