



Society of Toxicology NEWSLETTER

25TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

NOVEMBER 1985

New FASEB Study Underway

Under the terms of a contract with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Life Sciences Research Office (LSRO), Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), is initiating a study to examine the biological basis for extrapolating carcinogenic dose among laboratory test species and for predicting dose effects in humans at comparable levels of exposure.

To assist in this study, LSRO will commission a series of papers to be presented for discussion at an open symposium on January 6, 1986. Following the symposium, the speakers and an ad hoc group of invited scientists will meet in executive session to discuss the scientific issues raised during the symposium. Proceedings of the symposium and the results of the workshop will be published and copies will be provided to all participants. The symposium will be held at the Holiday Inn of Bethesda, 8120 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814.

For further information, contact Ralph C. Wands or Thomas A. Hill, Life Sciences Research Office, FASEB, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814 (301) 530-7030.

To Remind—Pictures Needed For Anniversary Presentation

Your photos of SOT activities since 1961 are needed for the 25th anniversary celebration in New Orleans. Please send any prints or negatives you have to SOT headquarters in Washington. Your pictures will be returned if you wish.

Notice

It has come to the attention of SOT Council that personal copies of *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology* and *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology* may be being forwarded to corporate and academic libraries, which is a violation of the SOT contract with their publisher. SOT members receive these journals at an extremely favorable subscription fee as a benefit of membership for their personal use only. They are not to be used for resale or to replace institutional subscriptions. Members are encouraged to urge their corporate or academic library to obtain institutional subscriptions directly from the publisher, Academic Press, Inc., 6277 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, FL 32887.

If you have a question regarding this policy, please contact Joan Walsh Cassidy, SOT Executive Secretary, or Roger O. McClellan, Chairperson of the SOT Board of Publications.

SOT Graduate Student Fellowships Application Deadline

To remind, the deadline for applications for the Graduate Student Fellowships awarded by Procter and Gamble (\$8,000) and Hazleton Laboratories (\$4,000) through the Society of Toxicology is December 15, 1985. Application forms were included in the last SOT newsletter and are also available from the SOT office.

SOT Directory

By now, SOT members should have received their 1985-1986 Membership Directory, the design of which reflects the Society's celebration of its 25th anniversary. If your listing is incorrect, please submit your correct listing to the SOT office in writing. SOT members will also be given an opportunity to correct their listings next spring prior to the printing of next year's directory.

SOT-Tissue Culture Association Liaison

For the past several years the Society of Toxicology and the Tissue Culture Association have been co-sponsoring symposia on the uses and applications of cell and tissue culture in toxicology at their respective annual meetings. Because of this favorable and worthwhile interaction between the two organizations, it is important to continue this exchange of ideas and activities between the two groups. For example, members of SOT may be interested in learning that the *Journal of Tissue Culture Methods* has recently published a special volume on "Toxicology" - *J. Tiss. Cult. Meth.* 9:1-29 (1985). In addition, the journal - *In Vitro Cellular and Developmental Biology*, Vol. 21, 1985 - will soon publish a special issue on "Applications of Cell Culture to Toxicology." Prices and subscription information about these two journals can be obtained from the TCA Business Office, 19110 Montgomery Village Ave., Suite 300, Gaithersburgh, MD. 20879. Additional information about the activities of the two organizations can be obtained from Daniel Acosta, SOT Liaison to the Tissue Culture Association, College of Pharmacy, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712.

OTS Chip Available

The Office of Toxic Substances (OTS) at EPA has announced the availability of a recent Chemical Hazard Information Profile (CHIP) on Methyl Bromide, CAS 74-83-9. For further information about CHIP reports, contact John Leitzke of OTS at 202/382-3507.



President's Message

Comments from SOT Members

Many members of our Society have responded to the request for comments about the Society's goals, current activities, and future needs. Some of these comments follow, together with your president's response. Please make further comments and recommendations for specific actions as appropriate.

"I think S.O.T. should become involved in high school education on evaluation of risk associated with chemicals. I think the Society is obliged to try to educate the public on how to deal with decisions in chemical exposure to avoid panic and waste."

"Education of lay persons concerning meaning of toxicology, risk assessment estimates (probabilities), and other aspects of our "science" which are readily MIS-interpreted by the public and press. I would be happy to help."

This need was addressed in the most recent report from the Public Communications Committee. The need may exist in elementary schools as well. It is hoped that specific documents and procedures to meet this need will come from the Committee this year. Send your comments or contributions of specific proposals to the Committee Chairperson, Jim Woods.

"S.O.T. should be much more active in the area of alternatives to animal testing."

"S.O.T. should be more active in animal welfare. The ASPET has shouldered most of the responsibility in the past for FASEB."

"S.O.T. provides very little leadership on issues in my opinion. The animal rights and animal welfare activists have been pressing various industries in a much more forceful and organized way since the late 1970's. S.O.T. has never debated the issues, conducted a survey, or until this year held a seminar on alternatives to animal testing and, quite frankly, that symposium was very wide of the mark....I can assure you that papers on tissue culture methods or official presentations from directors of programs to find alternatives to animal tests are inadequate to debating this crucial toxicological issue."

This is certainly an area of very active concern to our members. A policy statement is in preparation and the first draft received many critical responses from members. The second draft is in revision with the Animals in Research Committee and will be considered shortly by Council for formal release. The committee is encouraged to publicize more frequently and in a more comprehensive manner the activities worldwide and recommend specific actions for S.O.T. as well as individual members of our profession. Send your suggestions to Chairperson Joe LeBeau.

"Perhaps already in the "mill," but wouldn't it be a good idea each year prior to directory printing to mail out address correction forms as per Federation? I am constantly amazed at the number of telephone numbers missing."

Yes, a good idea and it is already in the "mill." Also, revisions are now being supplied as Newsletter loose inserts for more ready transfer to the Directory.

"Can we print in next newsletter directions to get to our new HQ by metro?"

Yes, and they are in this issue.

"In preparing abstracts for the 1986 Annual Meeting, I noted with interest the addition of an Aquatic/ Environmental session topic. I would like to propose the establishment of an Aquatic/ Environmental Specialty Session within the S.O.T. Perhaps we could meet at the Annual Meeting in New Orleans to discuss the possibility of starting an Environmental Specialty Section."

Yes, let's meet to discuss the possibility of starting such a specialty section. Other suggestions for specialty sections have included risk assessment and toxicology consultants. Contact Jerry Hook, Council liaison for Specialty Sections, for guidelines on how to organize new sections.

"The specialty sections should be encouraged to develop small workshops and symposium either in conjunction with or separate from the annual meeting. These meetings could provide the forum for discussion of issues that are not of general interest to the Society as a whole."

Council has, in general, not encouraged specialty sections to conduct workshops or symposia separate from the annual meeting. However, some sections have sponsored such programs

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and Council has also supported co-sponsorship of such meetings with other societies. Perhaps Council and the Specialty Sections should re-think this and develop a policy statement. I'll ask Jerry Hook to follow-up on the comment.

"I strongly support the idea of meeting the needs of both applied and basic toxicology. These needs do not have to be integrated as far as each session of every meeting or in each journal. I think S.O.T. is doing a good job in promoting."

"I would like to reflect how the S.O.T. appeared to me as a non-member and as a recently approved member. This in itself is a comment. I purposely did not join S.O.T. precisely because the meetings were dominated, both administratively and scientifically, by basic scientists. S.O.T. simply had no relevance to me as a toxicologist in industry; i.e., a toxicologist who applies the science of toxicology to both product and worker safety. The reason I finally joined was utility—S.O.T. is really the only game in town. ACT never has become a force and probably never will.

"Now that I am a member, S.O.T. still is not fulfilling any of my toxicological needs. Let me explain. Whole industries exist to produce consumer products which are topically applied: prescription and over-the-counter drugs, soaps and detergents, cosmetics, toiletries and fragrances, not to mention the household products manufacturers and specialty chemical manufacturers (for example, of pool products) who must be knowledgeable about the topical effects of their products. In short, S.O.T. offers very little in its meetings on the inflammatory response of the skin and eye, whether or not the etiology be from physical, chemical or biological irritants, sensitizers or photosensitizers. This is really quite astonishing since cutaneous and ocular reactions are the most prevalent reactions of both workers and consumers."

"Presently, we have an academic-oriented toxicology society (S.O.T.) and a regulator-oriented toxicology society (ACT). Toxicologists, in an industrial context, find little in either group to help them deal with their problems or their needs. Many of us in industry have been discussing organizing a third group, an applied, industrial based toxicology society. Frankly, I prefer to add some balance to the S.O.T. than join yet another toxicology group and hope that it fulfills some of our needs in industry."

These comments about meeting the needs of both "basic" and "applied" toxicologists are appreciated and more comments are invited. I will make an effort, along with Vice-President and Program Chairperson John Doull, to see that the activities are mutually supportive and synergistic, but not necessarily integrated. Please also refer specific suggestions to Jerry Hook, Vice-President Elect and Program Chairperson for 1987.

Emil A. Pfizter

News From Europe

The Federation of European Societies of Toxicology (FEST) has been formed by 12 European national societies. A governing council was elected, with J. Bridges as president.

Robert A. Eitlin has been elected secretary of the European Society of Toxicology (EST). The new address of the EST secretariat is: Dr. R.A. Eitlin, F. Hoffman-La Roche & Company Ltd., PF/BP-Fox, Building 73/103, CH-4002, Basel, Switzerland.

The 1986 meeting of EST will be held in Harrowgate from May 27-29. It will be a joint meeting with the British Toxicology Society.

General Announcement

Request for Comments on Criteria Document

A working paper on the subject of "Criteria for Identifying and Classifying Carcinogens, Mutagens, and Teratogens" has been received for comment. The paper was prepared by a group of international experts representing various concerned organizations. The Technical Committee has been asked to prepare a formal response. Copies of the paper may be obtained from Ed Sowinski (Uniroyal, Inc., Middlebury, CT 06749) and comments may be sent direct or coordinated with the Technical Committee's response. Contact Chairperson George Levin-skas.

Your Office In Washington

Several SOT members have stopped by the new SOT headquarters office in Washington, DC, either to deliver abstracts or simply to say hello to SOT's new Executive Secretary, Joan Walsh Cassidy, and her assistant, Marlene Goldman. For the benefit of members who may be coming to Washington on SOT or other business and would like to find their way to 1133 Fifteenth Street, NW, Suite 620, directions follow:

By subway: The office is within three blocks of the McPherson Square Metro stop (Vermont Avenue exit) on the blue line and Farragut North (L Street exit) on the red line.

By taxi: Nearby landmarks include the Madison Hotel next door and the Washington Post building across the street.

SOT members are always welcome. We suggest that you phone before coming to ensure that either Joan or Marlene is in, however. The SOT number is (202)293-5935.

Government Publications Of Interest

The New Human Genetics, a revision of a booklet first published in 1976, describes recent advances in the study of genetics including recombinant DNA technology and gene mapping. Available from NIGMS, Office of Research Reports, Building 31, Room 4A52, Bethesda, MD 20205, 301/496-7301.

Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, Office of Science and Health Reports, Division of Research Resources, Building 31, Room 5B-10, NIH, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20205. Bulk copies of the publication should be obtained directly from GPO by writing to: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The GPO for the Guide is 017-040-00498-2.

Evaluation of Cyclamate for Carcinogenicity, National Academy Press, 2101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20418, \$13.50 (US, Canada, and Mexico), \$16.25 (elsewhere).

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Coming Events

"Managing Quality: Conduct and Data of Toxicology Studies," November 18-20, 1985, sponsored by National Toxicology Program, American Industrial Health Council, American Petroleum Institute, Chemical Manufacturers Association and National Agricultural Chemical Association, Quality Inn Mission Valley Conference and Expo Center, 2110 Avent Ferry Road, Raleigh, NC 27606. Contact: Alice Glover, Corporate Travel International, 1-800-672-8537 (within NC), 1-800-334-9798 (outside NC).

"Interagency Conference on Federal R&D for High Technology Firms with 500 or Fewer Employees," November 25-26, 1985, in Boston. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Energy. Contact: Foresight Science and Technology Inc., 2000 P Stret, NW, Washington, DC 20036

"Toxicology 1985: Pharmacokinetics, Immunotoxicology and Teratology," 18th Annual Symposium of the Society of Toxicology of Canada, December 3-4, 1985, Holiday Inn City Centre, Ottawa. Contact: STC, C.P./P.O. Box 517, Beaconsfield, Quebec, H9W 5V1, Canada.

"Recombinant DNA Methodology Training Course," December 9-10, 1985 (Houston), December 12-13 (San Francisco), and December 16-17 (San Diego). Contact: Dr. Roland M. Nardone, Director, The Center for Advanced Training in Cell and Molecular Biology, Catholic University of America, Washington, DC 20064, 202/635-6161.

"Second Conference of Expert Witnesses, Litigation Consultants and Attorneys," December 7-8, 1985, sponsored by National Forensic Center, Chicago Marriott Downtown Hotel. Contact: 800-526-5177.

"Second International Symposium on Regulation of Chemicals in the Global Environment," January 29-31, 1986, Europa Hotel, Brussels, Belgium. Sponsored by the Institute for European Environmental Policy and International Environment Reporter. Contact: Suzanne Gordon, BNA Books and Conferences, 1251 -25th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037, 202/452-4570.

"Fourth International Conference on Safety Evaluation and Regulation," February 24-28, 1986, Charles Hotel, Cambridge, MA. Contact: F. Homburger, M.D., Bio-Research Institute, Inc., 380 Green Street, Cambridge, MA 02139, 617/864-8735.

"ASTM Committee Meeting, E-34 on Occupational Health and Safety," March 17-19, 1986, Hyatt Regency Lexington, KY. Contact: Don Viall, (215) 299-5546.

Annual Meeting Golf Outing

There will be a golf tournament at the 25th Annual Meeting in New Orleans! The tournament will be similar to that of last year and will be held on Sunday, March 2, 1986. It is open to all meeting registrants and spouses are welcome. For further information, contact Mike Kangiser at (607) 565-8131.

New Degree Program Announced

The College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions at Northeastern University announces a new degree program for practicing health professionals, the Master of Health Professions. The program is a part-time evening graduate program. Contact: Judith T. Barr, Director, Master of Health Professions, Northeastern University, 360 Huntington, Boston, MA 02114, 617/437-4188.

Participants Sought For ASTM Health Aspects Activity

The development of new practices and specifications for health and safety aspects of abrasive blasting in shipbuilding and repair is the assignment of a new American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) task group on Health Aspects of Abrasive Blasting. The new task group will operate under the guidance of ASTM Committee E-34 on Occupational Health and Safety. The group will generate a new health and safety practice to protect workers performing abrasive blasting.

For more information, contact Art Boehm, United Technologies Corp., 275 Windsor Street, Hartford, CT 06120, 203/522-4894; or Don Viall, ASTM Staff Manager, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103, 215/299-5546.



Robert Neal (R), President, Chemical Industry Institute of Toxicology, receiving the 1985 George Scott Award from Philippe Shubik, President, Toxicology Forum. (Story in Sept./Oct. 1985 newsletter).