

Society of Toxicology NEWSLETTER

MAY/JUNE 1988

Graduate Fellowship Awards in Toxicology

The Society of Toxicology, through the Education Committee, announces the availability of Graduate Fellowship Awards in Toxicology. The Awards are sponsored by **Hazleton Laboratories, Hoffmann-La Roche, and Procter & Gamble**. The Fellowship Awards are for one year and are to be administered by the department of the awardees.

Any graduate student with at least two years of graduate study toward the PhD degree in the area of toxicology and whose major professor is a member of the Society of Toxicology may apply. Further details may be found in the enclosed application. Evaluation by the Education Committee is based primarily on scholastic achievement, letters of recommendation and the dissertation research.

Applications are due by **Oct. 7, 1988**. Finalists will be invited to attend the Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, Feb. 28–March 3, 1989, for an interview. The winners of these awards will be announced at the annual banquet.

Completed applications should be sent to: **EDUCATION COMMITTEE, Society of Toxicology, 1133 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Suite 1000, Washington, D.C. 20005**.

Nominations for Society of Toxicology Awards for 1989

The progress of toxicology has resulted in many worthy potential candidates for the various Society of Toxicology Awards. A complete description of each award is given in the Annual Directory of Members, as well as being reproduced on the Awards Nomination Form included with this newsletter. The form is a convenience for the membership to nominate candidates, but direct letters of nomination with supporting material, as well as other appropriate nomination formats, may also be used.

Each nomination must be submitted by a sponsor and seconders who are members of the Society of Toxicology. The quality of supporting documentation is critical in the review of the nomination of each candidate. Please send all nominations and supporting documentation to the chairperson of the Awards Committee, **Dr. Jerry B. Hook, SOT, 1133 15th St., NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005**. The deadline for receipt of nominations for the 1989 Awards is **Oct. 1, 1988**.

Specialty Section on Risk Assessment Planned

During the SOT Annual Meeting, a group of interested individuals decided to investigate the opportunity of forming a specialty section on risk assessment. To date, over seventy members have expressed

interest. **Dr. Mike Dourson** has coordinated an ad hoc group to put together a list of objectives and a plan for obtaining Society approval. If you are interested in risk assessment but were not able to make the interest group session at the annual meeting, please send me your name and address, affiliation and phone number. I will see to it that you are added to the list and that you receive future mailings. **Dr. Simon Lock** is already working on a draft charter for consideration by SOT council. **Dr. Thomas Marshall** has volunteered to coordinate Continuing Education. Other members of the ad hoc group that can be contacted regarding membership information are **Penny Fenner-Crisp, Finis Cavender** and **Thomas Starr**.

—**Arthur R. Gregory, Ph.D.**, Principal Scientist, Environmental Monitoring & Services, Inc., 1101 15th Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 429-9188.

Nominations Sought For SOT Honorary Memberships

SOT members are encouraged to nominate individuals for Honorary membership in the Society. In accordance with the SOT by-laws,

Candidates for Honorary membership are nominated by two Voting or Associate members of the Society including members of Council. Nominations shall be accompanied by seconding letters and information regarding career achievements in toxicology. Election of Honorary members shall be by a two-thirds majority vote of Council. Not more than two Honorary members shall be elected during any one term of Council. Honorary members shall not be eligible to vote and shall not be assessed dues.

Please send nominations and accompanying documents to the Executive Secretary, SOT, 1133 Fifteenth Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005.

Member News

James S. Bus, Ph.D., has accepted a new position as Director, Drug Metabolism Research, with the Upjohn Company. Previously, Bus worked as the Associate Director, Pathology and Toxicology Research with Upjohn.

Dr. Mohammed Farooqui, has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor at Pan American University, Edinburg, Texas.

Dr. Frank E. Guthrie, a recent retiree from the full-time faculty of North Carolina State University, was honored on March 1, 1988, with a day of scientific and social events at the Mission Valley Inn in Raleigh, NC. A retirement lunch was attended by 175 toxicologists, entomologists and friends who gathered in tribute to a distinguished and dedicated scientist.

Dr. Guthrie, recipient of the 1984 Society of Toxicology Education Award, has contributed to the study of toxicology in both the classroom and through the writing and editing of textbooks. His most recent efforts concentrated on the area of dermal uptake mechanisms.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

1989 SOT ANNUAL MEETING

February 27–March 3
The Atlanta Hilton and Towers
Atlanta, Georgia

Deadline for next issues: July 15, 1988
September 15, 1988
November 15, 1988
January 15, 1989
March 15, 1989

President's Message

Dear Fellow Members:

A new President often brings to office a new agenda and different ways of doing things. Not this year! My predecessors established programs that will be maintained and embellished without expending unproductive energy and without losing the continuity of leadership that has been established. Last year, President **Jerry Hook**, Vice President-Elect **Roger McClellan** and myself as Vice President worked together to develop a longer-range plan for the Society that would provide a road map to guide Council and members until the twenty-first century. I think we were successful, largely due to the experienced help we obtained from **Tom Miya**.

Soon you will be receiving a report entitled, "Preparing for the Twenty-First Century: Report of the Tox-90's Commission." As you know, the Society of Toxicology convened the Tox-90's Commission in January 1988 to consider how the rapidly moving events in science and technology could be brought to bear on problem-solving in toxicology. The Commission devised 21 specific aims under three general enabling objectives as follows:

1. To enhance toxicology as a discipline
2. To bring better science into the risk assessment process
3. To continue to educate toxicologists

A number of the specific aims under these general objectives can be undertaken immediately. However, accomplishing all of the aims will take a number of years. By involving the President, Vice President, Vice President-Elect, Council, and Members in the formulation of a longer-range plan, programs can be successfully integrated over a few years time and brought to fruition in an expeditious manner. The Commission's report and its specific aims will be used to generate specific assignments for the standing committees of the Society. If needed, ad hoc committees will be created to undertake certain aims.

This brings me to acknowledging, with gratitude, the many members who volunteered their services to Society committees. Unfortunately, there were not enough slots available on the various committees for all those who volunteered. This is, in itself, a tribute to the strength of the Society and demonstrates that there are many members committed to advancing the discipline of toxicology.

All committees, both elected and appointed, now have full memberships. Some have already received specific work assignments. The Council will make further assignments and pass them along to the various committee chairpersons.

There are other important matters that need the attention of members not serving on Committees. One immediate need is for the nomination of members for various Society awards. We all know that we have many members who qualify for these awards. For one reason or another, too many of these potential nominees are not recognized. There have been years when no nominations at all have been made for some awards. I urge all members to take time today and think about colleagues qualified for an award, and take the initiative to make a nomination.

Jerry Hook noted in his departing **President's Message** that the meeting of the Society in Dallas was one of the best ever. This year's Program Chairman, Vice President, Roger McClellan, and his Program Committee, are vigorously considering ways of making the upcoming meeting in Atlanta even better. On behalf of the Committee, I thank all members who took the time and trouble to submit evaluation forms on last year's meeting. These comments, whether positive, neutral or negative, are of value in planning better meetings.

The Regional Chapters and Specialty Sections of the Society continue as strong organizations in their own right, creating an even stronger foundation for the Society of Toxicology as a whole. Chapters and Sections can and should do more, however, and new initiatives for these groups will be suggested this year.

Jerry Hook identified "two major unresolved issues" that might be helped by Regional Chapter and Specialty Section programs. These are as follows:

1. To find ways to incorporate better science into the "risk assessment process" and,
2. To more fully address the issue of the use of animals in research.

Both issues are extremely important to the future of the toxicology discipline and both deserve dedicated attention by all members for their resolution. The first of these issues differs from the second because the second is complicated by outside groups of people who are arguing for both "animal welfare improvements" and "the acknowledgement of animal rights." These publics have a voice in state and federal legislatures and can influence the practice of our science by creating an altered scientific environment through the enactment of regulations and laws.

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President's Message

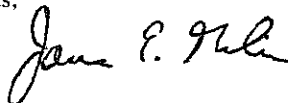
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The Society of Toxicology needs to have a clear position on the matter of the use of animals in toxicology research. Of course, we issued a position statement on these points in January of 1986, but that represents only a start in the right direction. A number of our members have been specifically targeted by groups that oppose the use of animals in research. These members need our help in making it clear to the public the nature and benefits of the scientific research of toxicologists. Additionally, we need to pursue all alternative techniques to the use of animals that are scientifically valid, if they can provide meaningful and interpretable results.

The issue of the use of animals is a complex one that deserves our attention. You can help your current and future officers by writing to me with your thoughts and recommendations on this important matter.

Let me close my initial **President's Message** with special thanks to the Officers and Councilors of the Society and to our Executive staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment to building a better and even stronger Society. I am looking forward to a productive and fruitful year.

Regards,



Publications of Interest

America's Future in Toxic Waste Management: Lessons from Europe. \$49.95, Quorum Books, Greenwood Press, Inc., 88 Post Road West, P.O. Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881, Jim Sabin, (203) 226-3571.

ASTM Standards on Materials and Environmental Microbiology, First Edition, \$39.00 (ASTM members—\$31.00), ASTM, Customer Service, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103, (215) 299-5585.

Carcinogenic and Mutagenic Responses to Aromatic Amines and Nitroarenes, provides an overview of human exposures to aromatic amines and nitroamines, and the mechanisms by which these exposures elicit genotoxicity and other adverse biological responses. Edited by Charles M. King, Ph.D., Louis J. Romano, Ph.D., and Dennis Schuetzle, Ph.D., \$95.00, Elsevier Science Publishing Co., Inc., P.O. Box 1663, Grand Central Station, New York, NY, 10163-1663 (in North America); Dfl. 195.00, Elsevier Science Publishers, P.O. Box 211, 1000 AE Amsterdam, The Netherlands (outside North America).

Complex Mixtures: Methods for In Vivo Toxicity Testing. \$39.95, National Academy Press, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20418.

Dictionary of Terms Used in the Safety Profession, \$19.00 for members of the American Society of Safety Engineers, \$25.00 for non-members. Contact Jim Kielty, Manager, Technical Publications, American Society of Safety Engineers, 1800 East Oakton Street, Des Plaines, IL 60018, (312) 692-4121.

Good Laboratory Practices, An Agrochemical Perspective, 0-8412-1480-4, \$39.95, ACS Distribution Office, Dept. 390, 1155 16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 872-4600.

Health Effects from Hazardous Waste Sites, \$49.95, Lewis Publishers, Inc., 121 South Main Street, P.O. Box 519, Chelsea, MI 48118, (312) 475-8619.

Health Risks of Radon and Other Internally Deposited Alpha-Emitters, BEIR IV deliberations, National Research Council, National Academy Press, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20418, (202) 334-3318.

Journal of Clinical Research and Development, 1988, (four issues), \$98.00 (institutional rate), \$52.00 (personal rate-prepaid), Elsevier Publishing Company, Inc., Attn: Allison Essen, P.O. Box 1663, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-1663.

Nurturing Science and Engineering Talent, The Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable, National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20418.

Pharmaceutical Medicine, Annual Subscription \$99.00, Richard Gedyde, Macmillan Press Ltd., Houndmills, Basingstroke, Hampshire RG212XS, United Kingdom.

Quality Assurance of Chemical Measurements, 0-87371-097-5, by John Keenan Taylor, Lewis Publishers, Inc., 121 South Main St., P.O. Drawer 519, Chelsea, MI 48118 (1987).

A Question of Safety, on the need for laboratory animals in product safety testing, Federal I.D. #04-2746997, VHS or Beta: \$35.00, ¾ U-matic: \$40.00, The Foundation for Biomedical Research, 818 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 303, Washington, D.C. 20006.

Regulation of Pesticide: Science, Law, and the Media, \$45.00. Government Institutes, Inc., 966 Hungerford Drive, #24, Rockville, MD 20850, (301) 251-9250.

Sigma—Biochemical and Organic Compounds for Research and Diagnostic Clinical Reagents, 1988 Price List, Sigma Chemical Company, P.O. Box 14508, St. Louis, MO 63178-9974; 1-800-325-3010 (USA/Canada), (314) 771-5750 (outside USA/Canada; call collect).

State Laws Concerning the Use of Animals in Research, \$12.00, National Association for Biomedical Research, 818 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 303, Washington, DC 20006.

Toxicology, A Primer on Toxicology Principles and Applications—Indoor and Outdoor Air, Drinking Water, Food, Workplace Environment, 0-87371-133-5, by Michael A. Kamrin, \$27.50, Lewis Publishers, Inc., 121 South Main St., P.O. Drawer 519, Chelsea, MI 48118.

Member News

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Sam Kacew, Ph.D., recently travelled to Chaing Mai, Thailand and Los Banos, Philippines, on behalf of the International Development Research Center of Canada, to discuss and develop botanical pesticides with emphasis on potential mammalian toxicity.

Dr. J.D. McColl, President of McColl & Associates, Inc., has been unanimously elected an Honorary Member of The Society of Toxicology of Canada at its recent Annual Meeting in Montreal. **Dr. Jules Brodeur**, President of the Society, in making the announcement, stated, "The Society thus wishes to acknowledge the distinguished services rendered by you to the science of toxicology in Canada during the past years. A personal plaque will commemorate this nomination."

Julius J. Menn, Ph.D., was recently appointed to the position of Associate Deputy Director, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, USDA, ARS. In this capacity he will direct research in Plant Sciences Institute with emphasis on crop protection sciences.

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Coming Events

The International Congress on Forensic Sciences, September 4–7, 1988, Beijing, China. Contact Office of International Congress on Forensic Sciences, China Express Congress Limited, 101-2 Energy Plaza, 92 Granville Road, T.S.T.E., Kowloon, Hong Kong, telephone 3-7217689.

Tenth Anniversary Meeting, European Association for Cancer Research, September 11–13, 1989, University College, Galway, Ireland. Contact Dr. S.M. Lavelle, Experimental Medicine, University College, Galway, Ireland, or in North America, Dr. J.H. Weisburger, American Health Foundation, Valhalla, NY 10595-1599.

Symposium/Conference on Scientific Trends and Their Impact on Policy Formation in Human Toxic Risk Assessment, September 18–21, 1988, at Stanford University, sponsored by the Chemical Industry Institute of Toxicology and Stanford University. For program and registration information, contact: Ms. Linda Bauman, Industrial Affiliates Program, Chemistry/Chemical Engineering, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305, 415/723-4748.

The Economic Impact of AIDS, September 27, 1988, The Thomas B. Turner Building, The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, MD, sponsored by the School of Hygiene and Public Health, Department of Health Policy and Management. Contact the Program Coordinator, Office of Continuing Education, The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Turner 22, 720 Rutland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21205, (301) 955-2959.

Toxicological Implications of Altered Gap Junctional Intercellular Communication, September 28–30, 1988, East Lansing, MI, presented by the Michigan State University Center for Environmental Toxicology, C-231 Holden Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1206, (517) 353-6469.

1988 Meeting of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, September 28–October 1, 1988, The Hershey Hotel, Philadelphia, PA. Contact Jane Speaker, Ph.D., 2112 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

Pathogenic Protozoa in Water, September 29, 1988, **DNA Probes: From industrial to Diagnostic Testing**, September 29–30, 1988, Chicago, IL. Contact Workshop Registrar, Professional Development, American Society for Microbiology, 1913 I St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, (202) 833-9680.

Sixth International Neurotoxicology Conference: "Drug Abuse and Brain Development," October 10–14, 1988, Little Rock, AR. Contact Dr. Joan M. Cranmer, Department of Pediatrics #512, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR 72205, (501) 370-2986.

Principles of Genetic Toxicology Testing, October 13, 1988, **Biodegradation Assessment of Environmentally Relevant Chemicals**, October 14, 1988, **Disinfectants and Preservative Testing**, October 13, 1988, **Use of Industrial Ethylene Oxide and Steam Sterilization Biological Indicator**, October 14, 1988, **Limulus Amebocyte Lysate Testing: Pharmaceutical Uses**, October 14, 1988, Valley Forge, PA. Contact Workshop Registrar, Professional Development, American Society for Microbiology, 1913 I St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

The Expanding Scope of the Quality Assurance Professional, 1988 Annual Meeting of the Society of Quality Assurance, October 18–23, 1988, Nashville Hotel, Tennessee. Contact Society of Quality Assurance, P.O. Box 1029, Princeton, NJ 08540.

Prospects and Opportunities for Risk Analysis, 1988 Annual Meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, October 30 to November 2, 1988, the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C.. Contact the Society for Risk Analysis, 8000 Westpark Drive, Suite 400, McLean, VA 22102, (703) 790-1745.

18th Conference on Toxicology, November 1–3, 1988, Holiday Inn Conference Center/I-675, Fairborn, OH, sponsored by the U.S. Air Force Harry G. Armstrong Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory and the Naval Medical Research Institute/Toxicology Detachment. Abstracts solicited and accepted until August 15, 1988. Attendance is limited and preregistration recommended. Contact Debbie Ussery, Conference Coordinator, Northrop Services, Inc., Box 12313, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, (919) 549-0611.

Sixth Medic Asia, November 9–12, 1988, Singapore. Contact Interfam Trade Fairs Pte Ltd., 510 Thompson Road #10-03, SLF Complex Singapore 1129, (065) 2599688.

Field and Laboratory Sampling of Food, Drugs, and Agricultural Commodities short course, November 30–December 1, 1988, Arlington, VA. Contact Association of Official Analytical Chemists, Education Department, 1111 North 19th Street, Suite 210, Arlington, VA 22209, (703) 522-3032.

Fifth International Conference on Environmental Mutagens, July 10–15, 1989, Cleveland, OH. Contact Fifth ICEM 1989, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, 2119 Abington Road, Cleveland, OH 44106, (216) 368-6213.

Fifth International Congress of Toxicology, July 16–21, 1989, Brighton, United Kingdom. Contact IUTOX '89, Congress House, 65 West Drive, Sutton, Surrey SM27NB, UK.

Third International Symposium on Poisonous Plants, July 23–29, 1989, The Conference and Institute Division of Utah State University, Logan, UT. Contact Dr. Lynn F. James, USDA-ARS Poisonous Plant Research Laboratory, 1150 East 1400 North, Logan, UT 84321, (801) 752-2941.

Member News

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Carol M. Schiller, Ph.D., recently resigned as the Environmental Corporate Counsel for CompuChem Laboratories, Inc., and accepted a position as Counsel to Anderson, Schiller & Rutherford, P.A. Dr. Schiller also serves as the President-Elect of the North Carolina Chapter of the Society for Risk Analysis and as the Co-Chair for the North Carolina Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section Continuing Legal Education Course on "Emerging Environmental Issues in 1988."

Robert Tardiff, Ph.D., has joined Versar, Inc., a scientific and technical service organization, to establish and lead a newly created division specializing in toxicology and allied health sciences and their applications in solving environmental health problems.

AAAS/Westinghouse Offers Award

The American Association for the Advancement of Science/Westinghouse Electric Fund invites nominations for the 1988 AAAS/Westinghouse Award for Public Understanding of Science and Technology.

This annual award for working scientists and engineers from all disciplines who make outstanding contributions to public understanding of science and technology, but who are not members of the media, will be presented during the AAAS Annual Meeting in San Francisco, January 15–20, 1989.

The Award carries a \$2,500 prize received this year by Philip Morrison of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. For additional information contact Patricia S. Curlin, Administrator of the Award, AAAS Committee on Public Understanding of Science and Technology, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005, 202/326-6600.

May/June 1988 Membership Changes

Returned Mail:

SOT mail addressed to the following members has been returned undelivered. If you know where any of the following individuals may be found, please notify the SOT headquarters office of his/her address or telephone number.

Kevin Baer
Frank L. Lyman
Daniel L. Morgan

Address Changes/ Corrections:

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Paul B. Hammond
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Richard H. Reitz
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Howard G. Shertzer
(513) 558-0522

Name Changes:

Pamela Karen (Cruikshank) Giberson

In Memoriam

Yvo T. Oester
Charter Member

Robert L. Roudabush
Charter Member, Past President

Reggie Harrison Stevens

March of Dimes Seeks Grant Applicants

The March of Dimes has announced grants for programs designed to recognize and quantify adverse reproductive effects in persons exposed to physical or chemical agents in the workplace, home, community and environment.

Investigations may be based on studies of exposed groups or the evaluation of risk and should be designed as components of an overall model system. For additional information concerning the specifications for each approach, as well as any other questions regarding this research support program, write or call: Grants Administration, March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, 1275 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605, (914) 428-7100.

Coalition Backs Animal Research

At an April 21, 1988, press conference held in Washington, D.C., celebrities, physicians and representatives from health associations lobbied for the continued use of animals in biomedical research in the fight against disease. Co-hosts of the conference, Tony Randall and Helen Hayes argued that animals are necessary to medical research.

Drs. Micheal DeBakey and Thomas Starzl explained how animals have enabled them to develop surgical procedures that have saved countless lives. "The only means by which we can do these things is by working in labs with animals," said Dr. DeBakey. Dr. Starzl reminded attendees that "much work is still to be done."

A statement supporting continued animal research was presented at the press conference by more than 60 voluntary and national health associations.

Maryland Dismisses and Illinois Considers Ban on Animal Testing

Proposals to ban eye irritancy tests as well as acute toxicity tests in live animals met with a resounding defeat in the Maryland legislature. Despite intense lobbying that included an appearance made by Abigail Van Buren, the proposals were overwhelmingly defeated this March.

Meanwhile, Illinois became the 5th state to consider "prohibiting any person from using or subjecting a live animal to any eye irritancy test, including the Draize test, and any acute toxicity test for the purpose of testing cosmetics or household products." The bill, not applicable to medical research or testing using tissue cultures or embryos, has not, as of this writing, received a committee assignment.

Schering Plough and IBM Reject Animal Testing Resolutions

Shareholders at both Schering Plough and IBM have decisively rejected resolutions that would have required them to provide annual statements on the reduction or elimination of animals for laboratory testing. The IBM resolution also called for the corporation to provide detailed information about the animal testing, including procedures and the names of agencies who either perform or require animal tests for IBM products.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging Offers New Possibilities

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), a new and innovative technique, affords anatomic images in multiple planes and may provide vital information on tissue characterization. MR images are obtained by using a powerful, highly uniform, static magnetic field in conjunction with radiofrequency pulses. The radiofrequency pulses energize nuclei causing them to move out of alignment with the static field in a state of excitation. When they return to the static field a signal induced in the receiver coil of the instrument can be transformed by a series of algorithms into diagnostic images.

Magnetic resonance images differ from those produced by X-rays: the latter are associated with absorption of X-ray energy, while MR images are based on proton density and proton relaxation dynamics. These vary according to the tissue under examination and reflect its physical and chemical properties.

At the National Institute of Health, the Consensus Development Conference brought together investigators in the biomedical sciences, clinical investigators, practicing physicians and consumer and special interest groups to assess the many issues surrounding MRI. Among the issues discussed were: Are there contraindications to or risks of MRI?, What are the technological advantages and disadvantages of MRI?, What are the clinical indications for MRI, and how does it compare to other diagnostic modalities?, What are the directions for future research in MRI?

Presently, it appears that MRI is a safe modality for imaging. Nevertheless, there must be continuing investigation of its secondary effects. MRI is an innovative technique that provides images of the body in many different planes and represents an extraordinary addition to our diagnostic armamentarium. The full potential of MRI, however, has not been reached, and continuing refinement of equipment, contrast agents, and software may be anticipated. As higher magnet strengths and rapid imaging sequences are investigated, further study of the long-term biologic effects of magnetic fields is required.

Adapted from the National Institutes of Health Consensus Development Conference Statement, Volume 6, Number 14.

SOT Members Push for Validation at CAAT Symposium

Members of the Society of Toxicology were among the prominent speakers at a recent symposium in Baltimore, MD, sponsored by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing (CAAT). SOT members **Alan Goldberg**, **Shayne Gad**, and **John Frazier** stressed the need for an increase in funding and research for validation programs.

Alan Goldberg, Ph.D., director of CAAT, emphasized the need for a "verifiable, consistent and reliable methodology" to develop validation programs that can replace the current Draize-type tests for eye irritancy. He invited attendees to present any "ideas on how to form a consortium of interests" that could initiate the further development of validation studies.

John Frazier pointed out that one of the principle stumbling blocks to the development of a "strong validation program" is the fact that alternatives to the Draize-type test use "a different kind of methodology that generates a different data base" than the one presently used by people who make product development evaluations. Frazier noted that "the testing establishment is beginning to show signs of accepting the in vitro strategy."

Watching Washington

EPA Announces Due Date for Preliminary Assessment Reports

The Environmental Protection Agency has announced that, based on nominations by the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards and the Office of Toxic Substances, preliminary assessment reports for 18 chemical substances are due by July 13, 1988. These reports should be submitted for any site where the listed substances are either produced or imported. The one-time reports must include production volume, end use, and exposure data.

These preliminary assessment reports are required for the following substances: barium chloride, bromine, cyclohexene, 4-ethenyl, ferromanganese, hydrocyanic acid, hydrofluoric acid, manganese oxide, molybdenum oxide, nitric acid, silver (1+) salt, palladium chloride, phosphorus, selenium, silver, sodium fluoride, sulfuric acid-cobalt (2+) salt (1:1), sulfuric acid-manganese (2+) salt (1:), tungsten carbide, vanadium oxide.

EPA Announces Available On-Line Database

Dr. William Farland, EPA's Acting Director for the Office of Health and Environmental Assessment, has announced the public availability of the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS). IRIS will provide "chemical-specific risk information on the relationship between chemical exposure and estimated human health effects," according to Farland. The information represents an EPA scientific consensus and presents data in a style useful for risk management and public health.

Consisting of data on hazard identification and dose-response assessment for approximately 260 chemicals, IRIS will be updated on a regular basis. It is currently accessible on DIALCOM, PHN, and shortly, TOXNET.

NABR Offers Testimony on Boxer Bill

On behalf of NABR, David A. Blake, Ph.D., member of the Association's board of directors, testified before the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health and the Environment on the Consumer Products Safe Testing Act on May 16, 1988. This bill, sponsored by Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-CA), would prohibit the use of the LD50 test for product safety, labeling and transportation requirements under federal regulations. The bill also calls for non-animal toxicity tests unless federal agencies determine, in specific instances, that animal tests have greater validity.

Blake condemned the bill as falsely assuming that "scientifically valid methods are available at this time, or will be in the next year, to totally replace the use of laboratory animals in acute toxicity testing." He further accused the legislation of failing "to recognize the complexity of acute toxicity questions" and of offering "no practical solutions for the future."

House Subcommittee Hears Competitive Implications of Toxicological Standards

On March 17, 1988 the House Subcommittee on International Scientific Cooperation held a hearing on "Competitive Implications of Toxicological Standards: The Need for Consistent International Standards." The hearing, conducted by Subcommittee Chairman Ralph Hall (D-TX), including testimony from Ronald A. Lang, President of the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers Association (SOCMA); Dr. John Higginson, Director of the Unit of Advanced Studies at Georgetown University; and Dr. Paul A. Cammer, President of Cammer and Associates.

Testimony focused on the need for international cooperation and consistency to classify and regulate suspected carcinogens and also on the improper use of carcinogen lists. Ronald Lang warned that inconsistent carcinogen classification methods threaten the future international competitiveness of an array of goods. Dr. Higginson endorsed an international meeting aimed at "better scientific input in the development of lists" to prevent the misuse of carcinogen lists. Noting that improper use of the lists creates unnecessary regulation and increases expenses for virtually every industry, Dr. Paul A. Cammer testified that carcinogen lists are only a first step toward safe use and understanding of various chemicals.

The Subcommittee is expected to hold another hearing within two months when it will hear from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other federal regulatory agencies.

Senate Committee Hears New "Pet Theft Act"

Senator Wendell Ford (D-KY) has introduced new legislation to prevent the selling of stolen dogs and cats. The Ford Pet Theft Act, S. 2353, an amendment to the Animal Welfare Act (AWA), focuses on USDA Class B dealers licensed and regulated under the AWA.

The new bill would prevent animal dealers from obtaining "live random source dogs and cats from" any sources other than authorized pounds and shelters or facilities that have "bred and raised such dogs and cats on their own premises." The bill would also require "state and county, or city owned and operated pounds and shelters" to hold dogs and cats for at least seven days before selling them to dealers.

Administratively, the bill requires animal dealers and/or shelters to "provide recipients of animals with a valid certification" containing a complete physical description, date of purchase and proof that the seven day holding period was satisfied. Records of any such transaction, under the new bill, must be kept for one year. Enforcement would consist of a \$1,000 fine for first time offenders, a \$5,000 fine for any second offense, and permanent revocation of any third-time offenders dealer's license.

The National Association for Biomedical Research has given tentative approval to the current legislation saying that, "with minor modification this (new) legislation is worthy of support and preferable to the (previous) Ford Pet Protection Act, which would have ended the use of random source animals in research by NIH and recipients of NIH funds and effectively put all Class B dealers out of business."