

THE THIRTIETH YEAR OF THE SOCIETY 1990-1991

Highlights: The thirtieth year provided an opportunity to look back at the many ways the Society has progressed since its founding in 1961. Well qualified and enthusiastic students are being recruited to the discipline giving the highest hopes for the future. Toxicology is clearly established as an integrative science that applies the best of new technologies to the solution of important societal and environmental issues. The recruitment of minorities into the field has been active with programs to bring science students and minority science advisors to the Annual Meeting; a mentoring program to guide and counsel these students at the meeting; an educational seminar at the meeting and a separate poster session for minority scientists. The Toxicology Education Foundation has attracted about \$10,000 in contributions from 215 donors in its first year. Financially, the Society saw an increase in income of almost a quarter million dollars to about \$1.37 million, largely due to growth in the Annual Meeting. However, expenses grew to an even greater extent and there was a net loss for the year ending April 30, 1990 of \$35,000.

The thirtieth Meeting of the Society of Toxicology was held at the Loews Anatole Hotel in Dallas, Texas from February 25 to March 1, 1991. The Annual Meeting of Members was chaired by President Curtis D. Klaassen and held on March 1 at 4:00 pm. The statistics of the meeting reflect a growth in interest in the Society and the field of Toxicology as well as a realization of some practical limits on the content of the meeting. Attendance was 3718 total including 3024 scientists making the thirtieth meeting the largest ever. The number of abstracts offered was 1378, about the same as the previous year. President Klaassen observed that this number grew rapidly in the 1980's but recently seemed to have leveled off. The number of platform sessions has stayed constant and poster sessions have increased. There were 11 platform sessions, 46 poster sessions and 12 poster discussion sessions. There were also 153 exhibitors and 13 courses in the Continuing Education Program which attracted 2410 registrants. The Placement Service which is also an important part of the Annual Meeting listed 258 candidates and 181 positions open. The former is an increase and the latter a decrease over the previous meeting, reflecting, perhaps, the general state of the employment situation in the current economy.

One of the highlights of the President's report to the membership was the work of the Membership Committee. During the year this committee recommended acceptance of 143 Full Members, 99 Associate Members and 86 Student Members. The Committee also spent much time on the logistics of the application process. They revised the application deadlines from the first of January and July to the first of April and September. This will even out the workload on the Headquarters office and was a recommendation of an earlier review committee. The Committee also ruled that, like members of Council, individuals on the Membership Committee should not recommend persons for membership. The Committee has also clarified the types of

publications needed for Full Membership and the requirements for Associate Membership. The Society is now over 3000 members. As the Membership Committee has a major impact on the long term prospects for the society, the Nominating Committee has an impact on the shorter term outlook. They drew on the diverse talents of the membership to assemble a strong slate of candidates for election. At the Annual Meeting of Members the Secretary announced the results of the election which was conducted by mail ballot. For the period starting May first 1991 those elected were Vice President-Elect I. Glenn Sipes, Secretary-Elect Marion Ehrich and Councilors (1991-1993) James S. Bus and John G. Dent. The elected Committee members were Donald J. Ecobichon and James A. Swenberg (Membership Committee 1991-1994) and Eileen P. Hayes and Garold S. Yost (Education Committee 1991-1994). The elected members of the Nominating Committee were David S. Brusick from the Regional Chapters; Shayne C. Gad from the Specialty Sections; John Doull from the Past Presidents and Debra Lynn Laskin from the membership at large. The President announced that council had awarded Honorary Membership to Hyman J. Zimmerman.

The Education Committee reflects the Society's long standing commitment to toxicology education. The Committee mailed information on SOT support of students to all student members and applicants for Student Membership. They selected 66 graduate students to receive travel awards (and there were 33 more for whom funds were not available). The Committee interviewed the finalists for the SOT Graduate Student Fellowships at the Annual Meeting and selected Dale Morris of the Medical College of Virginia for the Hazleton Award; Kathryn Guyton of Johns Hopkins University for the Hoffmann-LaRoche Award; Donald Bjerke of the University of Wisconsin for the Ciba-Geigy Award and Janice Thornton-Manning for the Procter & Gamble Award. The Colgate-Palmolive Post-Doctoral Fellowship in *In Vitro* Toxicology is a two-year award for study in any area of *in vitro* toxicology and was granted to Anne Walsh of Albany Medical College. The U. S. Air Force Office of Scientific Investigation sponsors two awards. The Post-Doctoral Fellowship was granted to Lori G. Rochelle of Dartmouth Medical School and the Young Investigator Award was made to Christopher A. Bradfield of Northwestern University Medical School. The Education Committee also sponsored a Forum for New Investigators which this year focused on the National Institutes of Health as a funding source. Over 70 scientists attended a panel discussion on grant preparation and processing. The Committee was also the recipient of an NIH grant with supplemental funding from the U. S. Air Force to support travel of minority undergraduate science students and their advisors to the SOT meeting in Dallas. Forty-six students and nine advisors from 13 schools participated and were guided by volunteer host/mentors from the Society. The introductory part of the program was attended by an additional 50 undergraduate students in the Dallas area.

Related to the work of the Education Committee were the continuing efforts of the Tox 90's Educational Issues ad hoc Task Force. In support of recruiting new students into the field the Committee has issued new wall posters and brochures advertising career opportunities in the field. Three poster exhibits for use in regional and other meetings have been prepared. The response cards attached to the wall posters have generated over 2500 replies since this effort began. The Committee is drafting a new edition of the Resource Guide to Toxicology. This

Guide has proven to be a great success. The costs are underwritten by the participating institutions with graduate programs. The Summer Internship program has completed its second year and the number of qualified candidates far exceeded the number of sponsors available. The Committee is examining its mission to determine whether Council should be urged to make it a standing committee or absorb its activities into the charter for other existing committees.

The Animals in Research Committee has a particularly sensitive role in view of the contemporary widespread concerns and discussions about the use of animals in biomedical research. In response to inquiries from members for information on the use of animals in research, the Committee has decided to review and select a list of useful publications on this topic, prepare an annotated bibliography and provide both the publications and the listing to the national and regional offices for use by members and others with questions. The Committee is also planning a symposium on the public relations aspects of this 'animals in research' issue for presentation tentatively at the 1993 meeting. The Committee has also been drafting an action plan for the Society to follow in the event of a demonstration at the Annual Meeting.

Related to the topic of animals in research is the work of the Committee on Public Communication. Aware that scientists are often not effective speakers on subjects which they know best, they organized a debate on Sunday night of the Annual Meeting. The subject was "Toxicology, the Press and the Public" and the intention was to inform the membership on ways to be involved. The Committee also put together the Continuing Education course on Risk Communication. In progress are projects to develop a set of slides on the subject of Toxicology suitable for use before community or undergraduate groups and educational comic book on toxicology and chemical awareness for grade school children. The latter has proven to be larger and more complex than expected and has been set aside for the time being.

The Board of Publications is responsible for the editorial policy of the Society's two journals, "Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology" (TAP) and "Fundamental and Applied Toxicology" (FAAT). This responsibility includes appointments of the editors, associate editors and members of the editorial boards. The current editor of TAP is I. Glenn Sipes. Bernard A. Schwetz will conclude his service as editor of FAAT during 1991 and will be replaced by Henry d'A. Heck. The term of Sipes as TAP editor concludes in December 1992 and the Board will begin seeking a replacement. The editors have assured that the editorial policies of each journal are well delineated and that the two journals work as complementary publications. The Board is also considering a request that the Society sponsor a third official journal, the "Journal of Biochemical Toxicology". There continues to be concern over the failure of FAAT to meet its publication costs through adequate numbers of subscriptions. To reduce these losses the Board did not authorize additional pages for the year; increased the manuscript handling fee and increased the institutional subscription rate. During the coming year the Board will consider a formal editorial policy requiring all manuscripts submitted for publication include a statement that the research described met the Society's policy on animal experimentation. It will also consider a change in page size and format to 8 1/2 x 11 inch, double column. In 1990, TAP published 5 volumes comprising 15 issues and 2799 pages. There were 497 manuscripts

accepted, rejected or in process during the year. For FAAT, there were 2 volumes of 8 issues and 1699 pages published during 1990. There were 303 manuscripts accepted, rejected or in process. For both journals, slightly more than half of the regular manuscripts (as contrasted with symposia, letters to the editor, etc.) were not accepted.

The society has established a Toxicology Education Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization operated for charitable, scientific and educational purposes. This status makes the Foundation tax exempt and provides tax breaks for contributors. An ad hoc committee of the Society is responsible for the initial efforts of the Foundation. The charter describes the mission of the Foundation in terms of education of the public as to the role of toxicology in modern society, development of educational programs and provision of support for students and young investigators. In the first year 215 individuals contributed approximately \$10,000 to the Foundation.

The Ethics Committee of the Society has reviewed and prepared a draft revision of the procedure for considering charges made under the Society's Code of Ethics. Subsequent steps will include submission for review and approval by Council and, eventually, dissemination to all members.

The Burroughs Wellcome Toxicology Scholar Award Advisory Committee has at the same time one of the most difficult and one of the most pleasant tasks in the Society. Pleasant in that the Committee recommends to Council and the Burroughs Wellcome Foundation a distinguished scientist to receive a \$300,000 award over five years. The difficult part comes in choosing an awardee this year from among 13 quality applications. The Committee noted that from inception of the award, 194 applications have been reviewed and 13 Scholars selected, resulting in a commitment by the Burroughs Wellcome fund of over \$3 million. The 1991 recipient was Robert A. Roth, Jr. of the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at Michigan State University. He is a Full Professor, a 1988 NIH Merit Awardee, a Diplomate of the American board of Toxicology and an individual strongly committed to the training of toxicologists. Tom S. Miya, a Past President of the Society, has served as Chairman of the Committee from the beginning and will be replaced at his request. The Fund has changed its operating policies and in the future all members of the Advisory Committee will serve three-year terms. The President of the Fund, George H. Hitchings will continue as a director but will be succeeded as President by Howard J. Schaeffer, a retired Burroughs Wellcome Company vice president.

The Program Committee for the Annual Scientific Meeting is co-chaired by the vice president and the vice president-elect of the Society. With their Committee they selected 1378 abstracts for presentation and organized them into 15 Symposia, 11 Platform Sessions, 12 Poster Discussion session and 46 Poster Sessions. Two special features of the Meeting were a pre-opening evening forum on "Chemicals and Acceptable Risk, the Public and the Press," a wide ranging Socratic debate. There was also a workshop sponsored by the Regulatory Affairs and Legislative Assistance Committee on "Toxicology and Public Policy". The Meeting also featured

153 exhibits which afforded registrants an opportunity to examine the latest in texts, equipment and services available to the profession. The exhibits also are a significant source of income to the Society. The registration for the meeting was the largest ever with 3024 scientists among a total of 3718 participants. Council has wondered if there is a limit to the size of the meeting and in his remarks President Klaassen noted that the number of abstracts appears to have reached a plateau and the number of platform sessions has held relatively constant. The number of poster sessions has risen but poster discussion sessions have decreased. The number of symposia looks like it can not exceed 15 given the present structure of the meeting. The SOT Placement Service was active as usual at the Annual Meeting. The members of the Committee devote virtually all their time at the meeting to the successful operation of the Service. There were 258 candidates seeking positions and 181 employers seeking to fill open positions. These numbers are not radically different from the past few years. Representatives of employers, especially those who hire primarily entry-level toxicologists, have said that the Placement Service at the Annual Meeting is their principal means of recruiting. The logistics of the entire operation-collecting resumes and job descriptions, updating candidate packets, copying of forms, computer data entry and searching and the like required many hours of planning and effort by the Committee, by volunteers assisting the Committee and by paid assistants provided by the Convention Service. The SOT Awards are announced at the Annual Meeting after selection by the Awards Committee and approval by Council. These awards are a high level of peer recognition for a professional in the field of toxicology and are much valued by the recipients. The Awards Committee was chaired by Past President Roger O. McClellan. The Frank R. Blood Award is for the best paper in one of the Society's journals in the past year and was given to Jay Babcock Silkworth, Daryl Cutler, LuAnn Antrim, Don Houston, Casimir Tumasonis and Laurence S. Kaminsky. The Education Award recognizes an individual who is distinguished by the teaching and training of toxicologists and who has made significant contributions to education in the broad field of toxicology. The award was given to Hanspeter R. Witschi of the University of California, Davis. The Achievement Award recognizes significant contributions to the field of toxicology by a younger member of the Society. The Award at the thirtieth meeting was given to Debra Lynn Laskin of Rutgers University. Major contributions to the control of chemical agents especially where sound scientific principles have been applied to the regulatory process form the basis of the Arnold J. Lehman Award. The recipient was Bernard A. Schwetz of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences/National Toxicology Program. The most prestigious award of the Society is the Merit Award given in recognition of a distinguished career in toxicology. The Award was given to Toshio Narahashi of the Department of Pharmacology at Northwestern University.

In the thirtieth year, the Continuing Education Committee provided an outstanding slate of courses. The ten topics included Physiologically-Based Pharmacokinetic Modeling (an lecture and pm computer session); Environmental Toxicology; Toxicology of Agents: Metals; Toxicology of Agents: Naturally Occurring Toxins; Target Organ Toxicity: Female Reproductive Toxicology; Risk Communication: Problems, Perception and Practice; Novel Techniques in Inhalation Toxicology and three advanced courses- Advanced Molecular Toxicology: Applications of Molecular Biology in Toxicology; Advanced Neurotoxicology and Advanced

Immunotoxicology. The Risk Communication and Advanced Molecular Toxicology courses were offered in both morning and afternoon sessions. There was a total of 2410 registrants for these courses, the highest number ever. The Continuing Education Courses Committee has a program of scheduling certain popular courses every three years or so and where appropriate, developing an advanced version of the more basic courses. In addition to a published syllabus for each course, arrangements were made with a professional recording firm to make audio tapes of each course and offer them for sale at the meeting. This venture did not attract the anticipated interest, perhaps because there was not extensive awareness of the service. For that reason, the Committee decided to offer it again in the thirty-first year (1991-1992) before making a final decision on the viability of the effort. Overall the Continuing Education Courses more than recovered the costs involved, largely due to the efforts of the course organizers to control expenses.

Among the operational issues which the Council of the Society dealt with during the thirtieth year was the location for future meetings. The 1992 Annual Meeting will be in Seattle, Washington. There will also be an IUTOX meeting that year in Rome, Italy. For the years beyond 1992, Council looked at New Orleans for 1993, instead of Miami as originally planned because of unfavorable reactions to the 1990 meeting there, followed by Dallas (1994) and Baltimore (1995). Council also worked on policies, procedures, a time line for critical projects and revisions to the accounting system so that scientists and not only accountants could understand what was happening. To do this and its other work, the Council met in May, July, September and November of 1990 and February of 1991. These meetings were normally two days' duration although the February 1991 meeting occupied three days. The Council for the thirtieth year consisted of President Curtis D. Klaassen, Vice President Donald J. Reed, Vice President-Elect John L. Emerson, Secretary Florence K. Kinoshita, Treasurer James S. Bus, Treasurer-Elect R. Michael McClain, Past President Roger O. McClellan and Councilors John A. Moore and Philip g. Watanabe (1989-1991) and Mary Jo Vodick and James S. Woods (1990-1992).

There continued to be 16 Regional Chapters of the Society, each with its own officers, members, budget and slate of meetings and other activities including in some instances the making of awards. The Regional Chapters are Allegheny-Erie, Central States, Gulf Coast, Michigan, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, Mountain West, National Capital, North Carolina, Northeast, Northern California, Ohio, Pacific Northwest, South Central, Southeastern and Southern California. There are also nine Specialty Sections of the Society each of which is focused on a narrower phase of the science. This provides a media for more specialized meetings and symposia as well as for general information exchange. The Specialty Sections include Carcinogenesis, Immunotoxicology, Inhalation, Mechanisms, Metals, Molecular Biology, Neurotoxicology, Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology and Risk Assessment. No new Regional Chapters or Specialty Sections were added during the thirtieth year.

Council presented to the membership a number of changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society for mail ballot. These dealt with the definition of Associate Membership,

the number of members of Council constituting a quorum, an increase in the number of members and term of service on selected committees and certain other administrative changes.

The Treasurer of the Society reported that SOT has continued to make progress in strengthening the financial foundation of the Society. Major steps were taken to set up and implement a system for monitoring ongoing financial actions and develop future plans. Income for the year ended April 1990 (the twenty-ninth year) increased by \$242,000 over the previous year to \$1,370,500. The Annual Meeting is responsible for most of this growth and constitutes 54% of SOT income. The Society's journals at 16% were the next largest source of revenue but most of this was passed through to Academic Press as subscription costs. Dues represented 15% of income and Corporate Associates about half that amount. The remaining 8% was accounted for by various miscellaneous items such as Placement Service fees, mailing list charges, etc. On the expense side, the Annual Meeting accounted for 35% and administrative costs 27%. The total expenses for the year were \$1,404,400, leaving a net deficit of \$35,000, which was taken from the Society's reserves. Future plans include returning those reserves to the target level of 50% of operating expenses.