

Society of Toxicology NEWSLETTER

MAY/JUNE 1991



1991-1992 Council

(Front row, from left) Curtis D. Klaassen, Past President; Donald J. Reed, President; John L. Emmerson, Vice President; I. Glenn Sipes, Vice President-Elect. (Top row, from left) Florence K. Kinoshita, Secretary; Marion Ehrich, Secretary-Elect; James S. Bus, Councilor; R. Michael McClain, Treasurer; Councilors Mary Jo Vodcink and James S. Woods; and Joan Walsh Cassedy, Executive Secretary. (Missing from the photograph is John G. Dent, Councilor.)

1991-1992 Election Results

Vice President-Elect:

I. Glenn Sipes, University of Arizona

Secretary-Elect:

Marion Ehrich, Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine

Councilors:

James S. Bus, Dow Chemical Company
John G. Dent, SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals

Education Committee:

Eileen P. Hayes, E.R. Squibb & Sons Inc.
Garold S. Yost, University of Utah

Membership Committee:

James A. Swenberg, University of North Carolina
Donald J. Ecobichon, McGill University

Nominating Committee:

(from Regional Chapters):
David J. Brusick, Hazleton Washington, Inc.
(from Specialty Sections):
Shayne C. Gad, G.D. Searle & Company
(From Past Presidents):
John Doull, University of Kansas Medical Center
(from Membership at Large):
Debra Lynn Laskin, Rutgers University

1991 SOT Awards

The Society presented the following awards during the 1991 Annual Meeting:

- *Merit Award* - Toshio Narahashi, Northwestern University
- *Arnold J. Lehman Award* - Bernard A. Schwetz, NIEHS
- *Achievement Award* - Debra Lynn Laskin, Rutgers University
- *Toxicology Education Award* - Hanspeter R. Witschi, UC/Davis
- *Frank R. Blood Award* - Jay Silkworth, et. al.
- *ICI Traveling Lectureship* - Sam Kacew, University of Ottawa

1991 Graduate Student Fellowships

The Society's Graduate Student Fellowships for the 1991-92 academic year were awarded to:

- CIBA-Geigy - Donald Bjerke, University of Wisconsin;
- Hazleton Laboratories - Dale Morris, Medical College of Virginia;
- Hoffmann-La Roche - Kathryn Guyton, Johns Hopkins University;
- Procter & Gamble - Janice Thornton - Manning, University of Utah.

The Society is grateful to these companies for their support of this important educational program.

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Society of Toxicology
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 Suite 1100
 Washington, DC 20005
 (202) 371-1393
 FAX: (202) 371-1090

Deadline for next issues:

June 10, 1991
 August 10, 1991
 October 10, 1991
 December 10, 1991

1992 Annual Meeting:

February 24 - 28
 Seattle Convention Center
 Seattle, Washington

President's Message

As we reflect on completing the Society's 30th year, we salute Past President **Curtis D. Klaassen** for his very able leadership during the past year and acknowledge his outstanding efforts in the many accomplishments of the Society. Curt even took the time to give us a detailed "State of the Society" in its first 30 years in his President's Messages during the past year.

What is in store for the Society during the next 30 years? As one generation is rounding out their professional careers, we see the next generation becoming very active in the Society. Our future looks very promising and will probably be as full of changes as we have seen over the past three decades. For example, we are in the intensive planning stage for our next Annual Meeting that will be held for the first time in a convention center rather than the traditional hotel setting. We will utilize the downtown Seattle Sheraton Hotel & Towers as the headquarters hotel and provide extensive meeting space in the new Seattle Convention Center located within a block.

What are some of the other changes that are immediate? We are very fortunate to have as our new editor for our journal, *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology*, **Henry d'A. Heck**, who will assume the reins after a successful associate editorship experience. He follows the term of **Bernie Schwetz**, who has done an outstanding job of building both the quality and size of *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology*. Congratulations on a job well done, Bernie! Please note another change: we now have in effect an increase in the manuscript handling fee. This increase is to ensure that page charges are not necessary and that the Society can still meet the rising cost of publication of research articles.

The Society owes a debt of gratitude to Past President **Roger McClellan** for his effective leadership in the completion of the organizational structure and tax status of the Toxicology Education Foundation. Creation of a Foundation to receive donations to secure the resources for educational activities of the Society apart from Society operational funds is a very important step for the future of toxicology. Efforts are underway to establish goals and guidelines for the future activities of the Foundation. You can look forward to learning much more about these activities in the coming year.

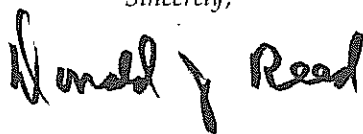
Speaking of educational activities, it has been very gratifying to see the progress made by the Education Committee under the leadership of **Marion Ehrich**, and by the *ad hoc* Tox 90s Educational Issues Task Force, **Jay Gandolfi**, Chairperson. I call to your attention the remarkable success of the Minorities Program, the near completion of a 2nd edition of the Resource Guide, and a host of other materials and support vital to students interested in learning more about toxicology. The Public Communications Committee, with **Chris Wilkinson**, Chairperson, has worked hard to enhance our ability to reach lay people, and so has the Continuing Education Committee, with its annual offering of outstanding courses, **Don deBethizy**, Chairperson. These activities must remain a major priority for all of us in the Society. It is most reassuring to know that the members are very willing to make it possible to continue this high level of educational activities.

One of the more pleasant tasks of this incoming President is to receive the comment/volunteer forms from the Society members for both the Annual Meeting and committee memberships. Even after selection of nearly 100 session chairpersons and over 30 committee member appointments, there are many members who, unfortunately, do not get selected. Since willingness by the members to serve is the very heart and soul of our Society, I urge you to continue your efforts on behalf of the Society so that we will continue to grow in vitality as an organization that is in close touch with the members, and represents the interests of each member. I sincerely hope that members are aware that each of us can make a difference within the Society. I can assure you that every Annual Meeting evaluation form and every member comment/volunteer form returned by the members is read and used for future planning of Society activities.

In closing, I would like to thank the members for their participation in and support of the activities of the Society. The willingness of so many members to give of their time and talents is truly exceptional. Possibly, our main limitation as a Society may be that of meeting the goals envisioned and initiated. Your participation in identifying such goals in the coming year is strongly urged, and I hope to continue to hear from many of you.

Best wishes to each of you, and my thanks for the opportunity to serve as your President. I look forward to an exciting and productive year.

Sincerely,



Don Reed

Airline Ticket Winners

The winner of two round-trip tickets on American Airlines, chosen at the Annual Business Meeting, was: **Robert L. Bronaugh, Ph.D.**, Division of Toxicology, USFDA. The winner of two round-trip tickets on Delta Airlines, selected from the Annual Meeting attendees using the SOT discounted travel program, was: **James C. Lamb, IV, Ph.D.**, Jellinek, Schwartz, Connolly & Freshman.

Colgate-Palmolive Postdoctoral Award for *In Vitro* Toxicology

Dr. Salvatore DeSalva of the Colgate-Palmolive Company presented the Colgate-Palmolive Postdoctoral Award for *in vitro* toxicology at the annual meeting. The 1991 award of \$33,500 annually for two years was awarded to Anne Walsh, Ph.D., Albany Medical College, Albany, NY. Three finalists for this award were selected from a field of 12 candidates. Honorable mention certificates for their impressive credentials were provided to Dr. Fran Cook-Boldin from Columbia University and **Dr. Laureen MacEachern** from Rutgers University. Through the Society of Toxicology, The Colgate-Palmolive Company sponsors this postdoctoral fellowship for research in an aspect of *in vitro* toxicology, especially research that may contribute to *in vitro* alternatives to animal safety studies.

SOT Membership Application Deadline Change

In the recent balloting process, the membership overwhelmingly voted to change the deadlines for membership applications from January 1 and July 1 to April 1 and September 1. This change will go into effect immediately, making the next application deadline **September 1, 1991**. Contact SOT Headquarters for revised application forms.

Minority Programs at Dallas Meeting

The Society of Toxicology Education Committee initiated a new endeavor when 46 minority undergraduate science majors and 9 science advisors received travel awards to attend the 1991 Annual Meeting in Dallas. These individuals were chosen in an effort to encourage their choice of toxicology as a career. While at the meeting, awardees attended the Educational Program for Minority Students, at which time the discipline of toxicology was introduced by **Harihara Mehendale** of the University of Mississippi, and the process of obtaining an education in toxicology was described by **Faye Calhoun** of NIH. **Robert D'Amato** of Procter & Gamble served as host, and **Marion Ehrich**, Chair, Education Committee, served as moderator. Among others providing additional remarks were: **Claude McGowan**, **Marcus Isard**, **Cecil Brownie**, and **Ricardo Rodriguez**. Over 150 individuals attended the Educational Program for Minority Students. In addition to travel awardees, the audience included undergraduates and science advisors from 12 area colleges and universities, as well as other individuals interested in toxicology education.

While in Dallas, travel awardees also attended the Poster Session for Minority Students, which provided an overview of research in toxicology. This session was conducted by scientists who volunteered to present their work at this special session, in addition to the regular session to which their work was assigned. Over 30 posters were displayed and over 300 people attended. Refreshments were provided by Eli Lilly & Co. Travel awardees also attended exhibits and other scientific sessions.

During their stay in Dallas, the travel awardees were hosted by toxicologists who volunteered for this important aspect of the program. These individuals included: **George B. Corcoran** of the University of New Mexico; **Patrick I. Eacho** of Eli Lilly & Co.; **Richard Dudek** of Monsanto Co.; **Yolanda Banks** of the USEPA; **Kimberly Treinen** of NIEHS; **Randolph B. Sleet** of Research Triangle Institute; **Harold Zenick** of the USEPA; **Zachary A. Wong** of Chevron; **Sidney Green** of the USFDA; **Claude McGowan** of Exxon; **Ethel Cormier** of Procter & Gamble; **Robert G. Meeks** of the University of Alabama; and **David W. Cragin** of Exxon.

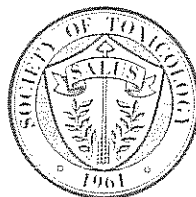
Comments and suggestions on the 1991 program are encouraged, as the Education Committee plans a similar effort in 1992.

Thank You!

The Society of Toxicology expresses its gratitude to the following companies who contributed funds for the 30th Anniversary activities at the Dallas Annual Meeting:

Hazleton Corporation
Purina Mills, Inc.
Ricerca, Inc.
TSI Mason Research Institute
TSI Redfield Laboratories
VCH Publishers
WIL Research Laboratories, Inc.

Society of Toxicology



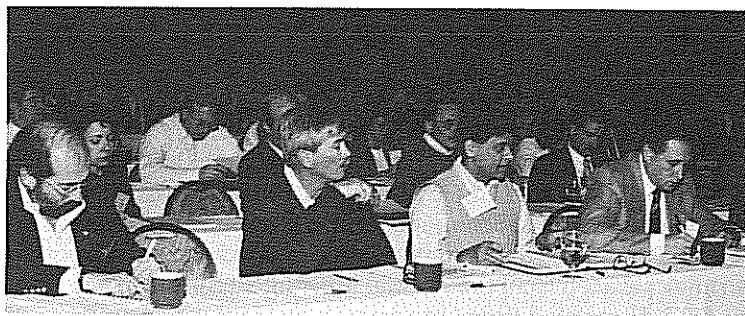
**30th Annual Meeting
Highlights
Loews Anatole Hotel
Dallas, Texas
February 25-March 1, 1991**

Attendance: 3,654: 1,293 members, 1,071 non-members, 183 post-docs in training, 449 pre-doctoral students, 113 guests, 50 invited speakers, 401 exhibitors, 5 press and 111 others (staff and invited students).



1990-91 Council

(Front row, from left) Roger O. McClellan, Past President; Curtis D. Klaassen, President; Donald J. Reed, Vice President; John L. Emmerson, Vice President-Elect. (Top row, from left) Florence K. Kinoshita, Secretary; James S. Bus, Treasurer; R. Michael McClain, Treasurer-Elect; and Councilors Mary Jo Vodcnik, John A. Moore, Philip G. Watanabe, and James S. Woods.



Over 2,400 tickets were sold for the 13 course sessions -- a tremendous turnout for a great program!



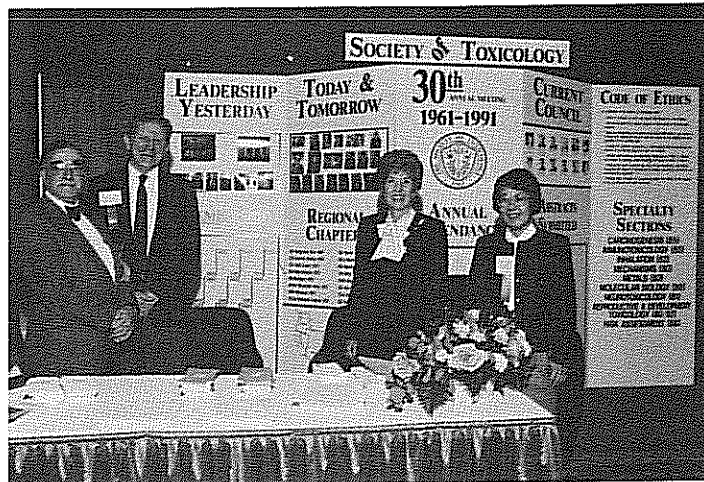
The Annual Meeting opened Sunday with "Chemicals and Acceptable Risk, the Public and the Press--A Special Forum." Here, participant Ellen Silbergeld makes a point with humor.



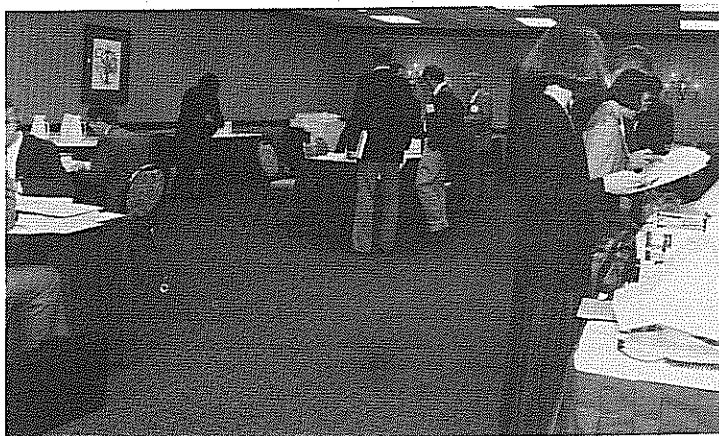
"Implementing Physiologically-Based Pharmacokinetic Models," a hands-on computer course, was extremely popular.



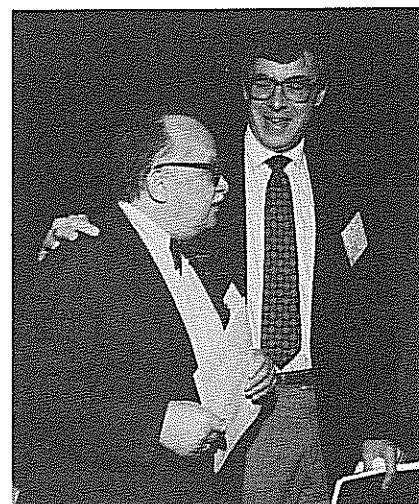
The Education Committee coordinated a very successful minority program that enabled 46 undergraduate students and 9 advisors to attend the Annual Meeting.



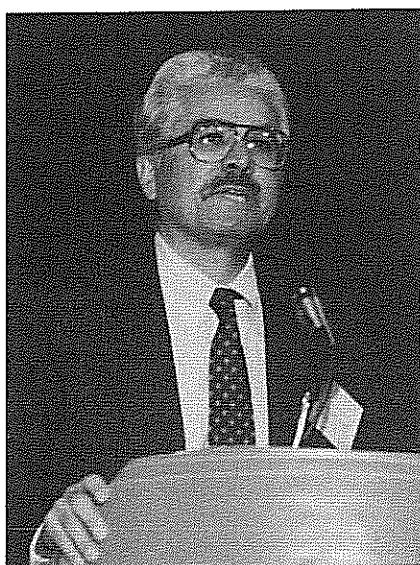
The Society celebrated its 30th anniversary in style, with a souvenir bookmark for all registrants, commemorative wine glasses and a very special retrospective video at the Banquet. Here, past presidents John Doull and Frederick Oehme "staff" the 30th anniversary booth with Historian Anne Wolven-Garrett and Florence K. Kinoshita, Councilor.



The Placement Service was home to 264 candidates and 198 employers.



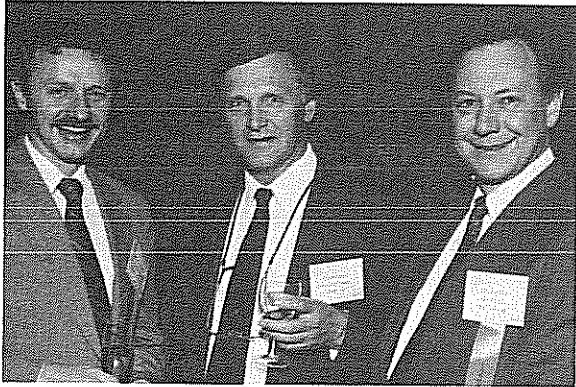
During the Annual Business Meeting, Dr. Klaassen recognized the Honorary Membership awarded to Dr. Hyman Zimmerman, who visits here with his membership sponsor, Glenn Sipes.



The Burroughs Wellcome Toxicology Scholar Award Lecture was presented by Daniel Acosta on the subject, "In Vitro Approaches in Toxicology: Mechanistic and Applied Aspects."



The Graduate Student Fellowships were awarded at the Student Luncheon and recognized at the Banquet. Assembled here are: (Back Row) C. Klaassen, R. D'Amato (Procter & Gamble), E. Pfitzer (Hoffmann-La Roche), D. Mathiason (CIBA-Geigy), R. Dagnell (Hazleton), M. Ehrich (Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine); (Front Row) J. Thornton-Manning (University of Utah), K. Guyton (John Hopkins University), D. Bjerke (University of Wisconsin), D. Morris (Medical College of Virginia).



The Welcoming Reception was in a spacious setting, enhancing the opportunity to greet old friends and make new ones. Gathered here are (from left) Curtis D. Klaassen, Steven D. Aust and James S. Woods.



Robert Roth is congratulated by Tom Miya (left) and Martha Peck (right) on receipt of the Burroughs Wellcome Toxicology Scholar Award.

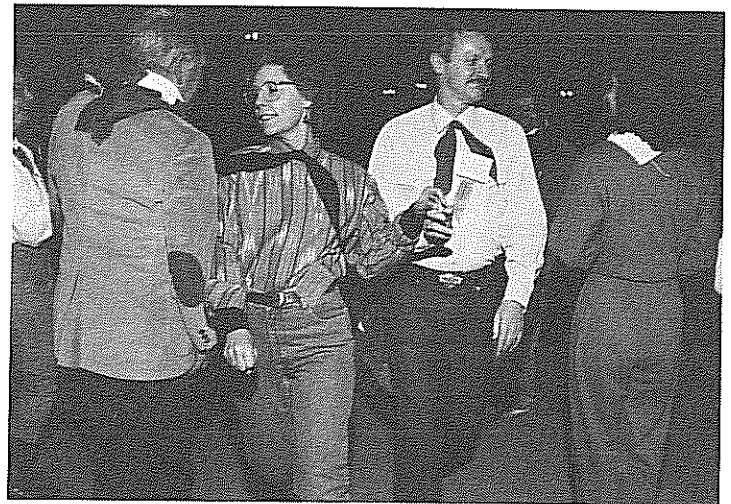
Toshio Narahashi (left) received the Merit Award from past president Roger O. McClellan.



Councilor John Moore (left) presents the Arnold J. Lehman Award to Bernard Schwetz.



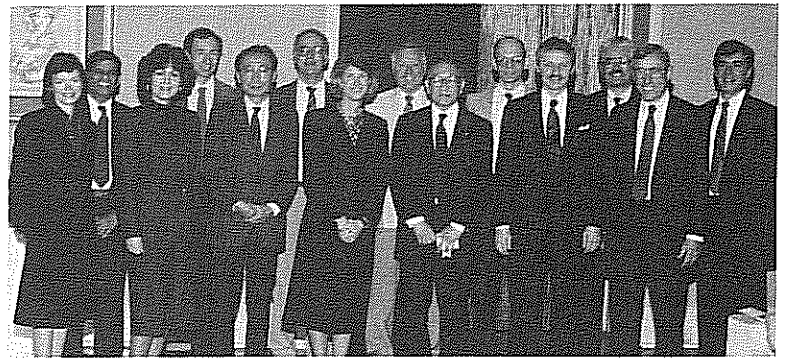
Councilor Philip Watanabe visits with Frank R. Blood Award recipients Jay Silkworth (left) and Lawrence Kaminsky (right).



Dr. Klaassen and his wife, Cherry, were among the 500 registrants who enjoyed the SOT Night at the Circle R Ranch.



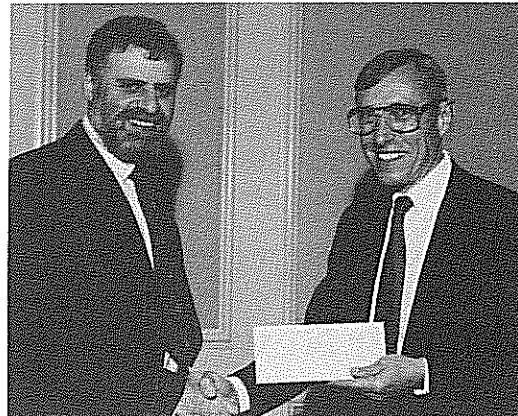
Debra Laskin (left), recipient of the Achievement Award, shakes hands with Councilor Mary Jo Vodcnik.



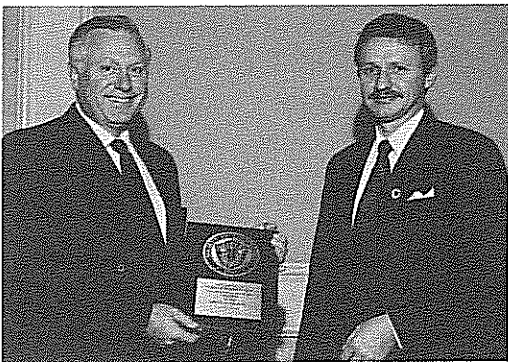
The Burroughs Wellcome Toxicology Scholar Award program celebrated its 10th anniversary at the Annual Meeting. Gathered here are Scholars and friends of the program: (from left) Joan Walsh Cassedy, Harihara Mehendale, Mahin Maines, Bruce Hammock, Toshio Narahashi, Stephen Safe, Martha Peck, Donald Reed, Tom Miya, Richard Irons, Curtis Klaassen, Daniel Acosta, John Emmerson and Glenn Sipes.



Salvatore de Salva presents the Colgate-Palmolive Post-Doctoral Fellowship in *in vitro* Toxicology to Anne Walsh, Albany Medical College.



John Emmerson (right), Vice President-Elect, presented the ICI Travelling Lectureship to Sam Kacew.



Vice President Donald Reed (left) thanks Dr. Klaassen for his efforts as 1990-91 President of SOT.



Lori Rochelle, Dartmouth Medical School, (right) receives the Air Force Office of Scientific Research Award for Post-Doctoral Research in Toxicology from Lt. Col. Jannette Cerveny. Christopher Bradfield, Northwestern University Medical School, received the AFOSR New Investigator Award.



Per tradition, the Specialty Section presidents met at the Annual Meeting. Councilor Philip Watanabe visits with Section Presidents.

Nominations Invited 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 assessed dues."

Please send nominations and accompanying documents to the Executive Secretary, SOT, 1101 Fourteenth Street, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005.

Constitution and By-Laws Ballot Results

The SOT Constitution and By-Laws revisions, as discussed at the February 27, 1991 Annual Business Meeting, were approved by a majority of the membership in the April 27, 1991 balloting process. An amendment was made to Article Third, Section 3 of the Constitution. Amendments were also made to Article First, Sections 4, 5 and 6; Article Second, Sections 1 and 2; Article Third, Section 3; Article Fourth, Section 3, 5, 7, 8 and 9 of the By-Laws. The revised Constitution and By-Laws will be published in the 1991/1992 Membership Directory.

Member News

Robert P. Hanzlik, professor of medicinal chemistry at the University of Kansas, was named the recipient of the Sato Memorial International Award. Dr. Hanzlik received the award March 27, 1991 in honor of his contribution to biomedical research. The award presentation was made in Tokyo by the Japanese Pharmaceutical Society and the Foundation for Advanced Education in Sciences Inc. of the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

The Hildegard Doerenkamp and Gerhard Zbinden Foundation for Realistic Animal Protection in Scientific Research has awarded a special prize to **Dr. Gerard J. Mulder**, head of the division of Toxicology of the Center for Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences (Leyden University) in the Netherlands. Dr. Mulder and his group have been working in the area of *in vitro* toxicology test systems for detection of reactive intermediates in drug metabolism.

Theodore M. Farber, Ph.D., D.A.B.T. and **Norbert P. Page**, DVM, MS, D.A.B.T., have formed a new firm, ToxaChemica, International, a consultancy in toxicology, regulatory affairs, industrial hygiene and litigation support. Their new address and telephone number are: ToxaChemica, International, P.O. Box 10547, Rockville, MD 20849; (301) 762-6463.

Nominations Invited for Society of Toxicology Awards

In recognition of distinguished toxicologists, the Society of Toxicology presents several awards each year. 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. Curtis D. Klaassen**, SOT Headquarters, 1101 Fourteenth Street, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005. The deadline for receipt of nominations for the 1992 Awards is **October 1, 1991**.

Nominations Invited for 1991 AAAS/Westinghouse Award

Nominations are invited for the 1991 American Association for the Advancement of Science/Westinghouse Award, an annual award for working scientists and engineers from all disciplines who make outstanding contributions to public understanding of science and technology, but are not members of the media. The Award, which carries a \$2,500 prize, will be presented during the AAAS Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL, February 6-11, 1992.

Deadline for nominations is August 1, 1991. 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) 326-6602.

Life Scientists Form Coalition for Science Education

Life Scientists by the thousands are joining hands to support the work of America's classroom teachers. At a landmark national Life Science Education Summit in February 1991 in Racine, WI, 30 life science organizations representing combined membership of nearly one half million scientists from the many life science disciplines agreed to form a new Coalition for Education in the Life Sciences (CELS).

The summit was spearheaded by the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) with support and participation by all of the leading life science organizations. **Dr. Richard E. Peterson** represented the Society of Toxicology.

Participants called for a wide range of hands-on actions by biologists from all of the life science disciplines, actions they believe will have a positive impact on the "pipeline" of tomorrow's scientists and the scientific literacy of the American public.

Placement Services



Human Health Toxicologist

Parametrix, Inc., is seeking applications from M.S. or Ph.D.-level scientists interested in assessing actual or predicted effects of chemicals on human populations in either our San Diego/San Mateo, California or Seattle metro offices. The incumbent will work within a 15-member Toxicology Division that currently performs aquatic toxicity testing and ecological and human health risk assessments. We are seeking candidates with 0-7 years experience, excellent writing and quantitative skills and interest in working on a wide variety of challenging assignments. Parametrix is a 250-member consulting firm with six offices in the West and is an EOE.

Openings With EPA

The Health Effects Research Laboratory of the USEPA conducts intramural studies in toxicology, pharmacokinetics and dosimetry, biostatistics and epidemiology on mixtures and individual pollutants. We anticipate openings in the near future in the following areas: developmental and reproductive toxicology, genetic toxicology, neurotoxicology, toxicology of other target organs, pharmacokinetics, biostatistics and epidemiology (both infectious disease and chemical). Principal investigator and technical support openings are anticipated in these areas. Special consideration will be given to persons with experience in drinking water toxicology. Please send curriculum vitae and three references to Dr. John R. Fowle III, c/o Ramona Litowsky, HRMD (MD-29), USEPA, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711 by May 31, 1991. EPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Only US Citizens are eligible.

Scientific Associate

Washington, DC-based trade association seeks Scientific Associate with basic training in pharmacology and toxicology. Interpersonal skills, task group management, leadership ability and scientific expertise are required for fulfillment of this unique professional opportunity.

Hands on involvement in "cutting edge" issues affecting the OTC industry, direct FDA interaction, central position in managing industry-wide issues, and more.

Contact: Lorna C. Totman, Ph.D., Nonprescription Drug Manufacturers Association, 1150 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Department of Health

Division of Environmental Health, Bureau of Environmental Response and Remediation, 288 North 1460 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Environmental Health Scientist IV, Toxicologist, Annual salary: \$36,732 to \$45,635

Job Summary: Staff Toxicologist will provide technical and administrative support to the Superfund and Underground Storage Tank branches and the Emergency Response section. Reviews and generates toxicological documentation used to support risk-based decisions; Plans field investigations & studies to evaluate releases or threats of releases of hazardous substances; Prepares and reviews detailed scientific and policy reports to evaluate and respond to releases of hazardous substances; assists technical/legal staff in preparing and participating in administrative and judicial proceedings; advises emergency response personnel; assists technical staff in locating and compiling literature and data in toxicology aspects; provides technical information regarding impacts/risks from hazardous substances to the public.

For additional information and application materials contact Dan Symonik, (800) 538-6338.

Upcoming Conferences

Thirty-First Annual Meeting of the Teratology Society, June 23-27, 1991, Boca Raton Hotel and Club, Boca Raton, FL. For further information, contact: Ms. Alexandra Ventura, Executive Secretary, Teratology Society, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814; (301) 571-1841, fax (301) 530-7133.

1991 Eurotox Congress, September 1 - 4, 1991, Maastricht, The Netherlands. For further information contact: The Secretariat, Eurotox 1991 Congress, Dr. A. J. Baars, Central Veterinary Institute, Dept. of Biochemistry and Toxicology, P.O. Box 65, 8200 AB Lelystad, The Netherlands.

American Academy of Clinical Toxicology Annual Meeting, September 28 - October 4, 1991, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Contact: Dr. Michael McGuigan, Hospital for Sick Children, Poison Control Center, 555 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1X8 Canada; (416) 598-5823.

Ninth International Neurotoxicology Conference, New Dimensions of Lead Neurotoxicity: Redefining Mechanisms and Effects, October 28-31, 1991, Excelsior Hotel, Little Rock, AR. For additional information, contact: Dr. Joan M. Cranmer, Neurotoxicology Laboratory, Dept. of Pediatrics #512, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR 72205; (501) 370-2986, fax (501) 370-4264.

The Health Effects of Gasoline, November 5-8, 1991, Doral Resort and Country Club, Miami, FL. For further information please contact: David B. Disbennett (Abstract Submission) or Madeleine D. Selelouk (Registration/Hotel), American Petroleum Institute, 1220 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 682-8332, fax (202) 682-8270.

2nd Congress of Toxicology in Developing Countries, November 24-28, 1991, New Delhi, India. For information, contact: Congress Secretariat, 2nd Congress of Toxicology in Developing Countries, Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Post Box 80, M.G. Marg, Lucknow-226 001, India. Telex: 0535 456 ITRC-IN; Phones: 248228, 242787, 240106, 248227.

Society of Toxicology, 31st Annual Meeting, February 24-28, 1992, Seattle, WA. For further information contact: SOT Headquarters, 1101 Fourteenth Street, N.W., Suite 1100, Washington, D.C., 20005; (202) 371-1393

Watching Washington



Animal Research Bills at the State Level

A number of bills that would significantly impact the use of animals in research were under varying degrees of consideration at the state level. The following summary is adapted from material published in the National Association for Biomedical Research *Update* and also the National Association for Biomedical Research *Alert*.

Animal Research Facility Protection: 12 bills providing protection of research facilities were under consideration in the AR, MT, NE, NM, NY, OK, TX, WA, WI, KS, and VA 1991 state legislatures. All bills except New Mexico's include agricultural facilities as well as research facilities. Most would increase penalties for break-ins and other illegal acts. Montana has enacted HB 120, which prohibits a wide range of acts against animal research facilities and calls for penalties ranging from fines of \$500-50,000 and up ten years in prison depending on the amount of damage to the facility. Victims may seek payment from the guilty party equal to three times all actual and consequential damages.

Consumer Product Safety Testing: AZ, CA, CT, MD, NJ and VT considered 14 bills limiting the types of animal testing allowable to determine the safety of a substance. Five would limit testing of any type of product, three would limit testing of cosmetic and household products, five would limit testing of cosmetics and one would limit testing of "chemical products." Five bills would ban the use of the Draize test and one would ban the LD₅₀ test. The two testing bills considered in the Maryland House Judiciary Committee were both defeated. However, a bill prohibiting the use of animals for skin irritancy and ocular tests, including the Draize test, was passed by the Assembly with a vote of 52-17. The Vermont House also passed H 143, a bill that would ban the use of animals to test cosmetics or other consumer products "except as specifically required or authorized by federal law or regulation. . ." The bill was referred to the Senate General Affairs & Housing Committee.

Availability of Animals: Legislators in VA, MO, NY and WY acted on bills that would affect the availability of animals, especially pound animals, for research. The Virginia bill was killed in committee.

Education: HB 2810 in MA would require the notification of all students two weeks prior to scheduled dissections and allow students to elect not to participate without being penalized. Two bills concerning classroom dissections are pending in New York.

Animal Cruelty and Regulation Legislation: A SD bill that redefines the research exemption in the current animal cruelty statute to cover only research following guidelines of the NIH and USDA was signed by the governor in February. The bill also grants the state animal industry board authority to inspect "any experiments or scientific investigation and facilities used under this section." SB 218 would amend Hawaii's existing animal cruelty law so cruelty charges are not applicable to activities carried on for

scientific research "if their purposes cannot be achieved by alternative means not involving animals." SB 2413 in New Jersey would add the exemption of research performed under authority of the USDA to the current exemption of research conducted under the authority of the New Jersey State Department of Health.

Information Dissemination and Research Accountability Act Reintroduced

For the seventh time in as many years, Representative Robert Torricelli (D-NJ) has introduced the "Information Dissemination and Research Accountability Act." HR 1389, identical to last year's bill, provides for the creation of a National Center for Research Accountability. This Center would be comprised of 20 presidential appointees who would review all research proposals involving animals approved by any Federal agency. Any proposals that duplicate existing research projects would not receive funding. HR 1389 would also authorize the National Library of Medicine (NLM) to acquire, in full-text form, all biomedical information owned by each Federal agency or available for their use. All such information acquired by the library after January 1, 1960 would be made available to research institutions at cost. The library would also support the creation of new information for teaching and training in modern methods of information storage and dissemination. Last year's bill died when Congress adjourned in October 1990. During the 98th through 100th Congresses, none of the bills were acted upon.

Senator Heflin Reintroduces Animal Research Facility Protection Act

As expected, Senator Howell T. Heflin (D-AL), along with eight co-sponsors, has reintroduced legislation to protect research facilities from illegal activities of animal rights extremists. The latest version of the bill, S. 544, is identical to S. 727, also sponsored by Senator Heflin. That bill was passed by the Senate in November 1989, but died when Congress adjourned in October 1990.

Correction

The January/February SOT Newsletter inadvertently referred to the endowed chair being established in honor of Dr. Sheldon D. Murphy at the University of Washington as "the first endowed chair in toxicology in the country." Philip Medon, Ph.D., Director, Research and Graduate Studies, Northeast Louisiana University, has pointed out that the Kitty DeGree Chair in Toxicology was established at that institution last year. We regret the oversight.