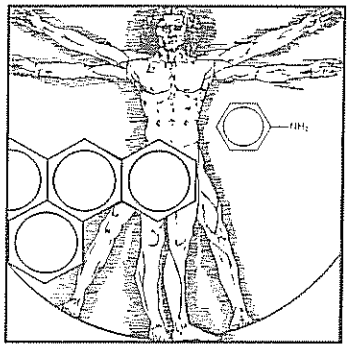


SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY

Communiqué

Special Issue 2000

SOT Award Winners

Award	Recipient
Achievement	Christopher Bradfield
Arnold J. Lehman	Carole A. Kimmel
	Janardan K. Reddy
Colgate-Palmolive Visiting Professorship	Yale University, School of Medicine
	Visiting Professor: Narendra Singh
Contributions to Public Awareness of the Importance of Animals in Toxicological Research	Allegheny-Erie Chapter
Education	Gary Carlson
Enhancement of Animal Welfare	Yves Alarie
Merit	Phillipe Shubik
Zeneca Traveling Award Lectureships	Kenneth Ramos
	Garold Yost

Board of Publications Best Paper Awards In:

Toxicological Sciences

Modulation of Serum Growth Factor Signal Transduction in Hepa 1-6 Cells by Acetaminophen: An Inhibition of c-myc Expression, NF-KB Activation and Raf-1 Kinase Activity. (1998), Vol. 6, pp. 264–274.

Hamid A. Boulares, Charles Giardina, Caryn L. Navarro, Edward A. Khairallah, Steven D. Cohen

Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology

Overexpression of the Anti-apoptotic Oncogene, bcl-2, in the Thymus Does Not Prevent Thymic Atrophy Induced by Estradiol or 2, 3, 7, 8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-Dioxin. (1998), Vol. 2, pp. 200–210.

J. Erin Staples, Nancy C. Fiore, Donald E. Frazier, Jr., Thomas A. Gasiewicz, Allen E. Silverstone

NEWS IN THIS ISSUE

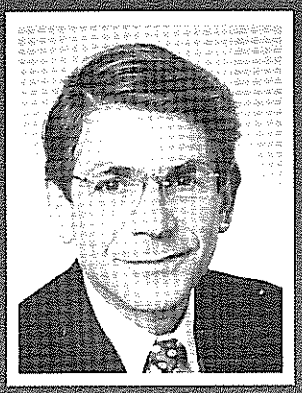
Membership Survey Highlights

Over the summer of 1999, the Society of Toxicology conducted a survey of its members to determine how the Society was viewed by the membership in several areas, such as the Annual Meeting, the role of the specialty sections, and the membership application process. The survey questions were developed by the Membership Committee, Council, and SOT Headquarters, and consisted of 33 multiple choice questions in 9 topic areas. Of the 5000 SOT members, nearly 1000 responded for a response rate of about 19%, a fairly typical response rate for such surveys. The survey was conducted and the responses tabulated and summarized by Research USA, Inc. Copies of the survey are available on the SOT Web site in PDF format at **www.toxicology.org** under the News & Information Section.

Some highlights of the survey results include the following:

- **A large majority (88%) of the membership rate the content of the Annual Meeting as excellent or good;** there were a number of suggestions on the relative balance between workshops, symposia, platform sessions and poster sessions.
- **Most (71%) members believed that the Specialty Sections did not overlap too much.** Certain areas of overlap were noted, such as between Mechanisms and several other sections, however, the overlap may be appropriate.

Continued to page 29



Jay I. Goodman, Ph.D.
1999-2000 President of the Society of Toxicology

FUTURE SOT ANNUAL MEETINGS

2000: *March 19-23*
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

40th Annual Meeting

2001: *March 25-29*
San Francisco, California

2002: *March 17-21*
Nashville, Tennessee

2003: *March 16-20*
Salt Lake City, Utah

INSIDE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

LONG-RANGE PLANNING: A BASIS FOR SOT'S CONTINUED SUCCESS

The development and implementation of our Long-Range Plan is a factor that has contributed substantially to SOT's continued success. The advantages of, and need for, Long-Range Planning was first discussed seriously by Council during the time that **John Emerson** was President (1992–1993). SOT's Horizon 2000 Plan was developed during **Jack Dean's** Presidency (1995–1996) and adopted in 1997. It calls for emphasis on eight key areas, indicated in the adjacent box. In light of the fact that support and advancement of basic and applied research in toxicology, and incorporation of sound science into risk assessment, are the first two items addressed, Council adopted a statement of Principles for Research Priorities in Toxicology in 1998. This serves to highlight the Society of Toxicology's commitment to research in the context of our concern for human health and the environment. Having a Long-Range Plan in place permits the Society to maintain focus and continuity in the face of the substantial (and healthy) degree of turnover that takes place in membership on Council and our Committees/Task Forces.

Now that we have been operating under our Long-Range Plan for several years, it is appropriate to take a step back and revisit it. This is a particularly opportune time to do this since we have the benefit of the results of our Membership Survey that was completed recently. (Articles on this will be published in this and subsequent issues of the *Communiqué*, and the complete results are posted on the SOT's Web site.) Therefore, a substantial portion of the January 2000 Council meeting was devoted to Long-Range Planning (LRP). I do not envision major changes being made to the current Plan. However, a key priority for the meeting was to juxtapose our spending with our overall goals and make the changes that might be necessary in order to align these properly.

Toxicology is a basic biomedical science because the study of mechanisms of toxicity leads to enhanced insight regarding our understanding of essential aspects of biology.

Continued to page 29

Basic Themes

- The dose makes the poison.
- Toxicology is part of the solution.
- Exaggerated estimates of risk can be "toxic."
- Enhancing the scientific basis of risk assessment can provide a win-win situation.

SOT Long-Range Plan

- Support and advance basic and applied research.
- Sound science to improve risk assessment.
- Better public understanding of Toxicology.
- Employment demographics and training needs.
- Use of animals in research.
- Computing and communication technologies.
- Strengthen international relations.
- Stable and broad financial platform.

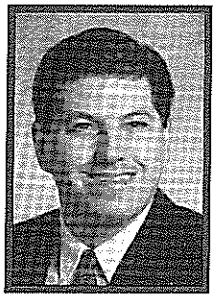
Principles For Research Priorities In Toxicology

- Basic research is of fundamental importance.
- Knowledge of mechanism is required to enhance the scientific basis of risk assessment.
- Key aspects of risk assessment:
  1. Dose Selection;
  2. Dose-Response;
  3. Species-to-Species Extrapolation; and
  4. Exposure Assessment.
- Research should be judged on the basis of scientific merit.

Science on the Hill: My Year in Review

Submitted by ***Bradley A. Shurdut****, SOT 1999–2000 Congressional Science Fellow*

As the first session of the 106th Congress moves into its recess, I would like to take this occasion to reflect back on my truly rewarding year as SOT's inaugural Congressional Fellow. First, I would like to thank the Society of Toxicology for this opportunity to represent such a fine organization and the scientific excellence it embodies. I am certain that SOT's decision to move forward with its Congressional Fellowship program has elevated its visibility as a proactive, public-minded scientific organization in the halls of Congress. I only hope that SOT's members share in this view as well. This fellowship provided me with a unique, first-hand glimpse into the public policy arena and bolstered my understanding of how "sound science" fits into the federal legislative decision-making process. As a scientist with a keen interest in public policy, who has spent most of his professional career in the private sector, my daily interaction and involvement in the legislative process heightened my awareness of my role as a public health professional. We, as toxicologists, strive to understand the relationship between chemical exposure and biological effect. How our research either facilitates understanding of potential health risks yet to be regulated or generates hypotheses upon which additional legislative attention should be focused, represents but one of the substantive areas where toxicologists must communicate with legislators.



Bradley A. Shurdut

Consistent with my experience on the Hill, scientific resources are frequently consulted to address constituent concerns, inform and educate Members and staff, and to effectively exercise oversight

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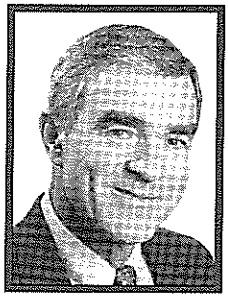
Getting Started on the Hill: Communication from Your 2000–2001 Congressional Fellow

Submitted by ***Skip Matthews****, SOT 2000–2001 Congressional Science Fellow*



Skip Matthews

As a longtime employee of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences working with the National Toxicology Program I have, for many years, made regular trips to Washington. In most cases my trips consisted of rising early, catching an early flight, attending a meeting and returning home that evening. Needless to say, my insights into the "ways of Washington" were narrow and limited. After almost a month of fulltime work in Washington as the SOT Congressional Fellow for the year 2000, my insights are still narrow and limited. However, I'm on the very steep side of the learning curve. As I begin to find my way around a bit it is immediately apparent that I will never get far up that curve, but I can report that I am already a good deal higher than when I started. I have had the opportunity to interview with more than a dozen congressional committees and offices plus a number of agency offices. I have met numerous interested and helpful people, and some others. I may have even made some contacts that will pay off in the future. Most important, I have found a position in an office that appreciates the need for expertise in toxicology for effective legislation and regulation.

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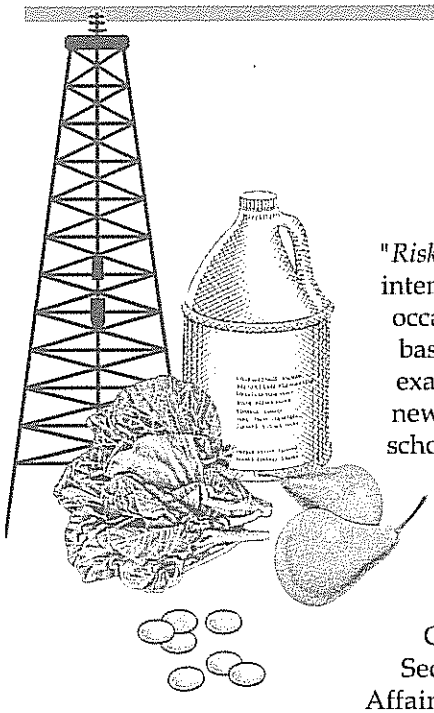
The *Society of Toxicology Communiqué* is published 5 times annually in Reston, Virginia, for members of the Society of Toxicology.

Editorial Office and Membership:
Society of Toxicology
1767 Business Ctr. Dr., Suite 302
Reston, VA 20190-5332
Phone: (703) 438-3115
Fax: (703) 438-3113
E-Mail: sothq@toxicology.org
Visit the SOT Home Page at http://www.toxicology.org

Newsletter Editor:
A. Jay Gandolfi, Ph.D.

Deadlines for Upcoming Issues:
April 3, 2000 (Spring Issue)
June 2, 2000 (Summer Issue)
August 3, 2000 (Fall Issue)

Risk Assessment:



"Risk Assessment: What's It All About?" is intended for SOT to use on the numerous occasions that we are called upon to present basic aspects of risk assessment to, for example, undergraduates, members of the news media, congressional staff, and high school science teachers. This is a result of a project initiated by the Task Force to Improve the Scientific Basis of Risk Assessment and that Task Force played the major role in its development. Input was received from SOT Council, the Risk Assessment Specialty Section, the Committee for Regulatory Affairs and Legislative Assistance, and the Committee on Public Communication. The contributions that each of these groups made is acknowledged gratefully. The document underwent a number of revisions, based upon the comments received, and was approved by Council on November 11, 1999.

What is risk assessment?

Risk assessment is a process by which scientists evaluate the potential for adverse health or environmental effects from exposure to naturally occurring or synthetic agents. These agents include: (1) chemicals such as those that occur in food naturally, food additives, drugs, and environmental contaminants, and (2) physical agents, such as radiation or electromagnetic fields. Risk assessment typically includes an estimate of the probability of harm, such as the probability of liver toxicity after use of a particular drug or the effect that a chemical in the environment may have on wildlife, and a clear description of the various assumptions and uncertainties that go into the risk assessment.

What is the goal of risk assessment?

The goal of risk assessment is to provide risk managers, who might be, for example, government regulatory officials, industry health and safety directors or public health officials, with a rational basis for making decisions about managing the use of chemicals or physical agents in order to protect health and the environment. The decision-making process often involves factors in addition to the risk assessment results, such as social values, technical feasibility and economic factors. Risk assessment is used as part of the decision-making process to ensure public protection against unacceptable risks and to allow the use of products whose benefits outweigh the risks associated with their use. Examples include medicines which may produce side effects.

What is involved in risk assessment?

As described by the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences[1], risk assessment involves four components:

Hazard identification — an evaluation of the adverse health effects the agent is capable of causing. Examples might include the capacity of an agent to cause liver or nervous system damage or to cause cancer.

Dose-response assessment — a determination of how much of an agent is required to cause a toxic effect, and prediction of exposure levels at which risk is likely to be negligible or nonexistent.

Exposure assessment — a determination of how much of an agent people might be exposed to under various conditions such as use of a drug or a consumer product, environmental exposure at a hazardous waste site.

Risk characterization — an integration of the pertinent information from the preceding steps to characterize the risks to the exposed population — e.g., what is the likelihood that there will be an increase in cancer in a population exposed to a particular contaminant in drinking water? What is the likelihood of liver toxicity if an individual uses a particular drug? The risk characterization also includes an explicit description of the assumptions and uncertainties that go into the risk assessment, and the overall confidence in the results of the analysis. It is important to note that even for very toxic chemicals, if the exposures are low enough, the risks may be very low or nonexistent. The principle that "the dose makes the poison" is a basic tenet of toxicology.

What's It All About?

It should also be recognized that the longer and healthier life that most of us enjoy can, in large part, be attributed to the proper use of chemicals (including medicines) that benefit people. Toxicology has played a key role by defining the conditions of use under which we may safely employ chemicals for good causes as well as conditions under which the use of a particular chemical should be avoided or eliminated.

Why is the Society of Toxicology interested in risk assessment?

Toxicology provides essential information for the risk assessment process. Basically, toxicologists provide much of the underlying scientific data regarding how chemicals might affect humans and the environment. The Society of Toxicology (SOT) believes that risk assessment and its application in decision-making can be greatly improved through the incorporation of sound science in the process and by educating those who use risk assessment in decision-making about the strengths and limitations of the science.

The SOT views the enhancement of the scientific basis of risk assessment as a high priority issue. Accordingly, its strategic plan includes components aimed at stimulating research to improve the risk assessment process, and educating scientists, regulators, the media and the lay public about the importance of the use of sound science in risk assessment. Furthermore, the Society is interested in promoting the use of risk assessments based upon sound science by regulatory agencies. Pursuant to these goals, the Society of Toxicology has adopted a set of Principles for Research Priorities in Toxicology; these are presented below.

SOT's principles for research priorities in toxicology[2]

Support the advancement of basic and applied research in toxicology, and incorporation of sound science into risk assessment, are the first two items addressed in our Long-Range Plan, adopted in June, 1997. Accordingly, Council has approved the following statement concerning principles for research priorities in toxicology in order to highlight the Society of Toxicology's commitment to research in the context of our concern for human health and the environment. Classic toxicity testing, involving the use of animal models, has served us well and will continue to do so in the future. However, we affirm the need to continue to strive for improvement in accord with the following principles.

1. A focus on basic research aimed at discerning the mechanism/mode of action of the agent of interest is of fundamental importance. Toxicology is a basic biomedical science because the study of mechanisms of toxicity leads to enhanced insight regarding our understanding of essential aspects of biology.
2. Knowledge of mechanisms underlying the toxicity of the agent of interest is required in order to facilitate the incorporation of sound science into risk assessment. This is a critical aspect of our Society's strategic plan. The overall goal is to enhance our ability to make reasonable estimates as to whether or not harm might occur to people, or the environment, under realistic conditions of exposure. This entails hypothesis-driven research and it is consistent with the notion that it is the dose which makes the poison.
3. The scientific basis of risk assessment can be enhanced by the development of improved test systems (not simply adding to the number of existing "tests") and improved means for interpretation of results. Key aspects of any risk assessment include an emphasis on: (1) dose selection; (2) dose-response relationships, including extrapolation from high to low doses; (3) species to species extrapolation; and (4) exposure assessment.

Research should be judged on the basis of scientific merit, without regard for funding source or where the studies are conducted (e.g., academia, government or industry).

1. *Science and Judgement*, National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Sciences Press, Washington, DC, 1994.
2. **Approved by SOT Council, 1998; published in the Society's newsletter, *Communiqué*, Special Issue, p. 9, 1998.**

Download your own copy!

Risk Assessment: What's It All About?

is available on the SOT Web site as a PDF at **www. toxicology.org** under the News & Information section.

Plenary Lecture at the 39th Annual Meeting of SOT

Frances M. Visco, Esq.

On March 20th, **Frances M. Visco, Esq.** will provide the opening Plenary Lecture, "Grassroots Advocacy in Action" to SOT Annual Meeting attendees. Ms. Visco is the President of the National Breast Cancer Coalition and serves as Chair of the US Army Breast Cancer Research Program Integration Panel. Ms. Visco was one of the key people who convinced Congress to appropriate over $200 million to initiate the Breast Cancer Research Program in the early 1990s. The program is administered by the US Army and is currently funding over $150 million to support basic and clinical research and training in breast cancer.

Program Disk on the Internet!

The SOT 2000 Annual Meeting Program is available in on the SOT Web site (**www.toxicology.org**) at no charge. This program will be in the familiar IBM format. The Meeting Diskette Search Program provides the ability to search the abstract titles of papers and posters programmed for presentation at the Annual Meeting. The user can search the meeting program by key words and phrases, author names, and sessions. By printing your selections, you can create your own personal itinerary for the meeting.

Media Training I: What To Do When the Media Calls

Saturday, March 18, 3:00 PM–4:00 PM (Free)

Learn to control the message and the media! This workshop is lively, fun, creative, challenging and loaded with critical information. This seminar is for beginning and advanced media savvy toxicologists. Registration is free. The Media Training Workshop will be held at the Philadelphia Marriott. All attendees will receive a free reference guide.

Media Training II: On-Camera Training for Toxicologists

Saturday, March 18, 4:00 PM–6:00 PM (Free) and Sunday, March 19 ($75) *On Sunday, March 19, this one-hour workshop will be held hourly starting at 8:00 AM with a break from 12:00 NOON–1:00 PM. The last workshop will begin at 4:00 PM.*

Learn to develop and deliver your message to the media on camera! These sessions will be held to help toxicologists hone their skills for delivering key messages during crises and other tense situations. The two-hour free Saturday workshop will be held in a large group setting with a few attendees being selected for on-camera interviews. The one-hour $75 small group training sessions allow for each participant to be trained and critiqued on camera. All attendees of the one-hour workshop will receive a free videotape of their interview. If you have any questions regarding either session please contact **Deborah Hyman** at SOT Headquarters (deborahh@toxicology.org).

2000 Leadership Orientation for Committee Members

Saturday, March 18, 1:30 PM–3:00 PM

If you are or will be a member of an SOT committee, please make plans now to attend the 2000 Leadership Orientation Workshop scheduled for 1:30 PM Saturday, March 18. All SOT members serving on committees are strongly encouraged to attend. With new committee assignments taking affect on May 1, 2000, the workshop is intended to provide guidance and answer questions that new members and chairs may have. The SOT strategic plan, administrative practices and procedures (e.g., budgets) and other important information for new chairpersons are just a few of the areas to be covered. The meeting also serves as an opportunity for Committees to get a head start on setting priorities for the year. Therefore, in order for the workshop to be a success, it is imperative that as many committee members as possible attend. For more information, contact SOT Headquarters.

25-Year Member Recognition

Have you been a member of the Society for 25 years (or perhaps many more)? If so, you will be recognized as a group at the SOT 2000 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

- 25-Year Member Reception
  Sunday, March 19, 6:30 PM–7:30 PM
- Recognition at the SOT Annual Business Meeting
  Tuesday, March 21, 4:30 PM–6:00 PM
- Recognition at the SOT Awards Presentation
  Thursday, March 23, 4:30 PM–5:30 PM

Please consider joining us at the Annual Meeting so we can extend our gratitude for the solid foundation on which the Society has grown.

Student/Post-Doctoral Fellow Reception

The Society of Toxicology strives each year to improve its Annual Meeting and accomplishes this in part by talking with attendees and listening to their suggestions. Two years ago, it was suggested that a forum be provided so that students and post-doctoral fellows could meet and talk informally with one another about graduate and post-doctoral programs. Again, the Society will be offering a reception for these individuals on Sunday, March 19 from 7:00 PM–9:00 PM, immediately following the Welcoming Reception. SOT will provide a pasta buffet and DJ. Meeting badges are required.

Placement Service

During the Annual Meeting, the Placement Service will be located on the first floor of the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Registrations will be accepted at the Annual Meeting; however, we are encouraging individuals to pre-register. Access to the Placement Service site can be achieved through the SOT Home Page at **www.toxicology.org**. Simply go to the Home Page, locate the Career Resources description that will direct you to Placement Services link, and you will be directed to the on-line job bank. To receive a brochure that describes the Placement Service, contact **Tonya Mills** (tonya@toxicology.org) at SOT Headquarters.

Placement Seminar

Keeping Your Career in Gear

Monday, March 20, 4:30 PM–5:30 PM

New initiatives in safety evaluation, regulatory policy and breakthrough technological advancements challenge all toxicologists to recognize the skills and expertise needed to develop and sustain a successful career. The goal of this seminar is to provide attendees with perspectives from practicing toxicologists in industrial, academic and government sectors on successful strategies for career development and career management in light of ever-changing job requirements. The seminar will feature speakers with diverse employment backgrounds, and each speaker will address the challenges presented in his/her work and share their perspectives on how they react to and meet these challenges and opportunities. Each speaker will also discuss prospectively how their work is changing and what new or additional skills they believe will be needed to continue on a successful career path. The seminar is intended to provide useful perspective to entry level scientists as well as established toxicologists.

4:30 PM	Welcome — Lois Lehman-McKeeman, The Procter & Gamble Company
4:30 PM–4:45 PM	David L. Eaton, University of Washington
4:45 PM–5:00 PM	Grushenka H. I. Wolfgang, Chiron Corp.
5:00 PM–5:15 PM	Albert E. Munson, NIOSH
5:15 PM–5:30 PM	William F. Greenlee, CIIT
5:30 PM–6:00 PM	Panel Discussion

Burroughs Wellcome Toxicology Scholar Award Lectures

Retinoid Binding Proteins and Retinoid Toxicity

Tuesday, March 21, 8:00 AM–8:30 AM

Lecturer: *Ellen Li, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Medicine, Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO.*

Ellen Li, M.D., Ph.D.

Vitamin A is indispensable for growth, reproduction, differentiation and vision of vertebrates. Vitamin A deficiency is a major cause of childhood morbidity and mortality worldwide. On the other hand, the pharmacological use of retinoids can result in severe fetal malformations and in the adult most commonly causes hyperlipidemia. Two classes of nonsteroid nuclear hormone receptors mediate retinoid signaling, the retinoic acid receptor and retinoid x receptor. In addition, the retinoid x receptors play a central role in regulating gene transcription through formation of homodimers and heterodimers with other nuclear receptors other than the retinoic acid receptors, such as the peroxisome proliferator-activated receptors, vitamin D3 receptors, and the thyroid hormone receptors. Intracellular trafficking of retinoids is mediated by specific cytoplasmic carrier proteins, which influence ligand availability for binding with the nuclear retinoids. Retinoid signaling involves a complex interplay between the nuclear receptors, cytoplasmic carrier proteins and sites of metabolic processing. Our laboratory has been interested in studying the structural basis of ligand protein interactions and in modeling intracellular trafficking of retinoids between various retinoid binding proteins. We have purified fully functional bacterially expressed nuclear retinoid receptors and cytoplasmic retinoid binding proteins and analyzed the interactions of these proteins with retinoids in solution using a number of biophysical techniques, most notably nuclear magnetic resonance. Using this approach we have modeled how the physical properties of these binding proteins affect vitamin A homeostasis and toxicity.

Gene Induction by Phenobarbital and Cell Signaling in the Hepatocyte

Wednesday, March 22, 8:00 AM–8:30 AM

Lecturer: *Curtis J. Omiecinski, Department of Environmental Health, University of Washington, Seattle, WA.*

Curtis J. Omiecinski, Ph.D.

The induction of biotransformation processes has substantial impact on an individual's response to pharmaceutical and toxicant exposures. Phenobarbital (PB) is a prototypical inducing agent for a variety of drugs and other xenobiotic compounds that exhibit pleiotropic effects in the liver of mammalian organisms. Biotransformation genes that are markedly up regulated by this "class" of compounds include certain glutathione transferases, UDP-glucuronosyl transferases, aldehyde dehydrogenases, and cytochrome P450 monooxygenases. The molecular mechanisms and signaling pathways responsible for the transcriptional activation effects of PB inducers remain poorly defined. To further investigate the induction paradigm, one research thrust of our laboratory has focused on the development of transgenic mouse and primary hepatocyte *in vitro* models enabling investigation of the biology of PB induction together with that of liver-specific gene expression. Initially, results form our transgenic models largely pointed the way to the subsequent discovery of a PB responsive unit or module (PBREM) localized ~2200 bp upstream of the transcriptional initiation site for the rat Cyp2b2 and mouse Cyp2b10 genes. This module is centered on a nuclear factor 1 site and is flanked by sequence motifs for putative nuclear receptor interactions. Further transgenic mouse studies by our laboratory indicated that NR1 is not the key regulator of PB responsiveness within the PBREM; rather, a CAR nuclear receptor protein was identified recently by Dr. Negishi's group as a critical modulator of PB transcription. Since this transcriptional response is largely lost in transformed cell lines, we have developed a defined primary hepatocyte culture model and investigated liver specific signaling cascades required for maintaining the highly differentiated cell phenotype. Using this model, we demonstrated that de novo protein synthesis is not required for PB induction. Arrays of pharmacological agents have been evaluated for their effects on hepatocyte signaling networks and potential modulation of the PB induction process. PKC, MAPK, CAMKII and P13K pathways have been largely ruled out as PB signaling mediators. In contrast, important roles were

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established for protein kinase A (PKA) and protein phosphatase pathways (PP2A) as regulators of the induction response, although recent experiments have established that PB exposures per se do not increase cAMP levels or PKA activity in hepatocytes. Further experiments with the developed transgenic and *in vitro* models are poised to delineate the cell signaling networks and associated extracellular matrix interactions that define the hepatic phenotype, regulate genetic induction, and modulate the toxicological responses characteristic of this organ.

Issues Session

The Value and Ethics of Using Human Data for the Registration of Pesticides

Thursday, March 23, 12:00 NOON–1:30 PM

Moderator: *Ernest E. McConnell, ToxPath, Inc., Raleigh, NC.*

Speakers: *Bernie Weiss, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY; Judy MacGregor, Independent Consultant, Rockville, MD; Lynn Goldman, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD; Ron Kendall, Chair of FIFRA Science Advisory Panel and at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX; Dan Goldstein Medical Toxicologist at Monsanto, St. Louis, MO; and Dr. Gary Ellis, NIH Office for Protection from Research Risks, Rockville, MD.*

A joint meeting of the US EPA Science Advisory Board and FIFRA Science Advisory Panel was convened on December 10-11, 1998, to provide advice and comment to the US EPA on issues related to data derived from testing on human subjects, particularly the use of human data for making pesticide registration decisions. Both scientific and ethical questions were raised about such data, the manner in which they are obtained, and how these data should be used in risk assessments.

Proponents of using human data felt such data were of prime value for developing a risk assessment of a given pesticide, if the data were obtained in a scientifically credible and ethical manner, similar to what is expected in the field of pharmaceutical testing. In fact, it was felt that testing in human volunteers was particularly important in the case of pesticides because of their potential for contamination of food and water. Opponents felt it was unethical to test pesticides in human volunteers under most circumstances. They posed two basic arguments for supporting their case: 1) Pesticides are unique chemicals because they are designed to be "poisons," and 2) Many pesticides are neurotoxic and it is unethical to test neurotoxins in people.

This is a particularly important issue because it impacts on some fundamental concepts in toxicology and is a basic policy decision for the US EPA.

SOT/EUROTOX Debate

Tuesday, March 21, 12:00 NOON–1:00 PM

Debaters: *Dr. Ian Munro, Cantox, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada and Dr. Bevan Moseley, Independent Consultant, Reading, Berkshire, United Kingdom.*

Motion: *An evaluation demonstrating that foods derived from genetically modified crops are as safe as their traditional counterparts is an appropriate paradigm for assessing the safety of genetically modified foods.*

Moderator: *Steve Taylor, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE.*

Prior to the introduction of foods derived from genetically modified crops, the producers of seeds for these crops must obtain regulatory approvals both for their introduction into the environment as well as the use of these crops for human food and animal feed. In addition to thorough characterization of the introduced gene and the protein product, the producers are required to show that foods produced from these crops are as safe as the foods from traditional crops. Some people have questioned whether the current safety assessments are adequate for genetically modified crops. The debaters will provide insight on the controversy and how it is affecting development of this key technology.

Visit the SOT Booths!

Show your support of SOT programs by visiting SOT-sponsored booths in the Exhibit Hall.

- **Animals in Research** — The Society of Toxicology is committed to research of the highest quality and views the use of laboratory animals necessary to protect human health and the environment, except where alternative techniques have been validated. Stop by the booth to pick up your copies of updated SOT statements concerning the use of animals in research. On display will be educational materials, including videotapes, brochures and sources of information.
- **K–12 Education** — This is your chance to see and use the excellent classroom resources that improve science skills of students and increase their understanding of toxicology. The booth will showcase Web resources, videos, print materials and activities that can be used by teachers and the toxicologists that visit classrooms and community groups. Come share with the Subcommittee on K–12 what YOU are doing in your local area.
- **Toxicology Education Foundation** — TEF will showcase the items that are part of their "Toxicology in the Classroom™" program. Teachers and students across the nation will use these toxicology and environmental health materials, with SOT members making the national implementation possible. Learn more about TEF's fundraising campaign and check that your name is on the contributors' list. Fresh baked goodies are promised!
- **Write Your Congressperson** — The regulatory Affairs and Legislative Assistance committee has made writing to congress an easy process. Stop by their booth to personalize letters already drafted for your use. Letters topics include the need for increased funding for the US Food and Drug Administration, National Institutes of Health, and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, as well as the importance of the use of animal data in risk assessment. Computer terminals — complete with congressional directories — will be available. Letter writers will receive a small gift as well as three chances to win a $50 gift certificate.

Philadelphia, PA

Retired Members Register at a Reduced Rate for Annual Meeting

It is well known that the SOT retired members lend history and continuity to the Society. To encourage retired members to come and share their knowledge at the SOT Annual Meeting, the required registration fee is $115 on-site. If you are retired, please consider joining your colleagues in Philadelphia.

"Living Safely with Chemicals in the New Millennium" Public Lecture Planned for Philadelphia

Brian McDonough

In conjunction with Poison Prevention Week, the Committee on Public Communications will offer a public lecture, "Living Safely with Chemicals in the New Millennium: How Toxicologists Help Decide What is Safe," 5:30 PM, March 21, 2000, in the auditorium of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia.

The public lecture will be moderated by **Dr. Brian McDonough**, Associate Director of St. Francis Hospital Family Practice Residency Program in Wilmington, Delaware and Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health at the Temple University School of Medicine. As well as seeing patients every day, Dr. McDonough is a medical correspondent for FOX-TV and KYW NewsRadio in Philadelphia. The "Dr. Brian McDonough Show" can be heard on over 250 stations across the US.

Key speaker, **Dr. James Lamb** of BBL Sciences, will provide the audience with an overview of how products are tested for toxicity before being sold to consumers. A panel made up of local experts will also be on hand to teach the audience how to live safely with potentially toxic substances in and around their homes.

For the third consecutive year, the CPC has offered such lectures in the same communities that the SOT Annual Meeting is held. The public lecture supports the SOT Long-Range Plan's goal of providing a better public understanding of toxicology.

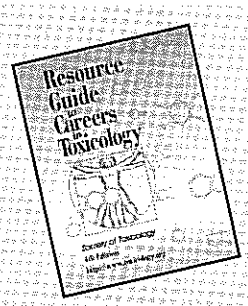
Co-sponsored by the Academy of Natural Sciences and the Poison Control Center, the public lecture is free, but space is limited and advance registration is encouraged. For pre-registration or other questions, call **Dr. Joan Tarloff** at (215) 596-8983.

Task Force for 40th Annual Meeting Plans San Francisco Events

When SOT meets in San Francisco for its 40th Annual Meeting in March, 2001, there will be a series of activities to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the founding of the organization. A Task Force, chaired by Bob Scala, is planning a number of events to highlight the past 40 years of the Society. We look forward to a wonderful celebration. If you have any ideas or suggestions for the Task Force, please contact Bob Scala (c/o of SOT HQ).

Honorary Member to Be Recognized

Findlay E. Russell, M.D., Ph.D., will be recognized as an honorary member in the Society of Toxicology at the annual awards presentation at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, March 23, 2000. The professor at the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy is being recognized for his more than 50 years of active and innovative research. His publications include nine books and 28 chapters in leading textbooks, and more than 300 papers in toxicology, pharmacology, and medicine. He also serves as an editor and reviewer for dozens of scientific journals. He has held visiting appointments from Cambridge to Cairo and has served as a consultant and lecturer for the World Health Organization and as a Fulbright Scholar. Since his arrival at the University of Arizona in 1981, Dr. Russell has continued his activities as a physician/scholar devoted to the study of venomous creatures and treatment of poisonings. These are just of the few of the many contributions made by Dr. Russell. Please join SOT at the awards presentation to recognize Dr. Russell's accomplishments.



4th Edition *Resource Guide* Available

The *4th Edition of the Resource Guide to Careers in Toxicology* is now available. The latest edition includes contact information, areas of concentration, and Web site addresses for 60 programs in toxicology, as well as updated information about careers in toxicology. The version posted on the SOT Web site contains links to the program Web sites, as well as to other sites of value to students.

The revision of the *Guide* was completed under the direction of the Education Committee (**Claude McGowan,** Ph.D., 1998-1999 chair, Janssen at Washington Crossing; and **Rick Schnellmann,** Ph.D., 1999-2000 chair, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences), with **James E. Klaunig,** Ph.D., Indiana University School of Medicine as project coordinator, and a task force consisting of **David L. Eaton,** Ph.D., University of Washington, **A. Jay Gandolfi,** Ph.D., University of Arizona, **Mary Davis,** Ph.D., West Virginia University Medical Center; **Jacqueline H. Smith,** Ph.D., Exxon Biomedical Sciences, Inc, and **Betty Eidemiller,** Ph.D., SOT Director of Education. Although the Web site edition provides access to additional information, printed copies are mailed by request (contact SOT Headquarters). Copies will also be available at the K–12 Education Exhibit Booth at the Annual Meeting.

Students Recognized at Annual Meeting

Congratulations to the five finalists for Graduate Fellowships who will be interviewed at the Annual Meeting. Three will be awarded fellowships, which are generously sponsored by Covance, Novartis, and Procter & Gamble. The finalists include **Jeffery Card**, Queens University; **Mark R. Fielden**, Michigan State University, **Vanessa Fitsanakis**, Vanderbilt University, **Susan C. McKarns**, Michigan State University, and **Jeffery H. Moran**, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

The Society of Toxicology has a strong commitment to student members, and provides travel support as well as special programs for students at the Annual Meeting. This March, 68 students will receive Graduate Travel Awards, including 12 funded by a generous contribution from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund (see list below). Additionally, student representatives to the Student Advisory Committee from the regional chapters receive travel support.

All of these students receive recognition at the Graduate Student — Post-Doctoral Fellow Luncheon on Tuesday. For next year, applications for student awards are due **October 1, 2000**. Students must be an SOT student member or have applied for membership at the application deadline. Check the SOT Web site for more information and applications.

2000 Graduate Travel Award Recipients

Michael L. Adams	University of Washington
Surekha S. Akella	University of Michigan
Jeffrey W. Allen	Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Clinton D. Allred	University of Illinois
Felix Ayala-Fierro	University of Arizona
Deepa Bandi Rao	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences
Rodney L. Baty	University of Texas-Houston Graduate School of Biology
Jamie C. Benedict	University of Maryland School of Medicine
Joel P. Bercu	University of Texas School of Public Health
Cheryl J. Buckholz	Oregon State University
Erik A. Carlson	New York University
Lara A. Cook	Mississippi State University
Stephanie J. Garcia	Duke University
Jeanine A. Hand	SUNY at Buffalo
Susan D. Hester	East Carolina University-School of Medicine
Eamon J. Hickey	Arnold & Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy-LIU
Qihong Huang	University of Texas at Austin
Victor J. Johnson	University of Georgia
David R. Johnson	University of Kansas Medical Center
Sonja Kasapinovic	University of Toronto
Ji-Eun Lee	Cornell University
Shawna L.Lemke	Texas A&M University
Yuling Li	University of Cincinnati
Nan Lin	University of Minnesota
Elizabeth A. Lipscomb	University of Rochester
Tara N. Lovekamp	North Carolina State University
Cynthia L. Mann	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Christiane Massicotte	VA-MA Regional College of Veterinary Medicine
Kristen A. Mitchell	Washington State University, College of Pharmacy
Joseph E. Murphy	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Laine P. Myers	Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
Paul A. Nony	University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Kenneth J. Olivier, Jr	University of Louisiana at Monroe
Amanda S. Persad	University of South Florida
Mark W. Powley	Purdue University
Chunhua Qin	Texas A&M University
Ivan I. Rusyn	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Vicente Santa Cruz	University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
John M. Seubert	University of Western Ontario
Marcia D.H. Stiles	University of Louisiana at Monroe
Andrew S. Tam	Queen's University

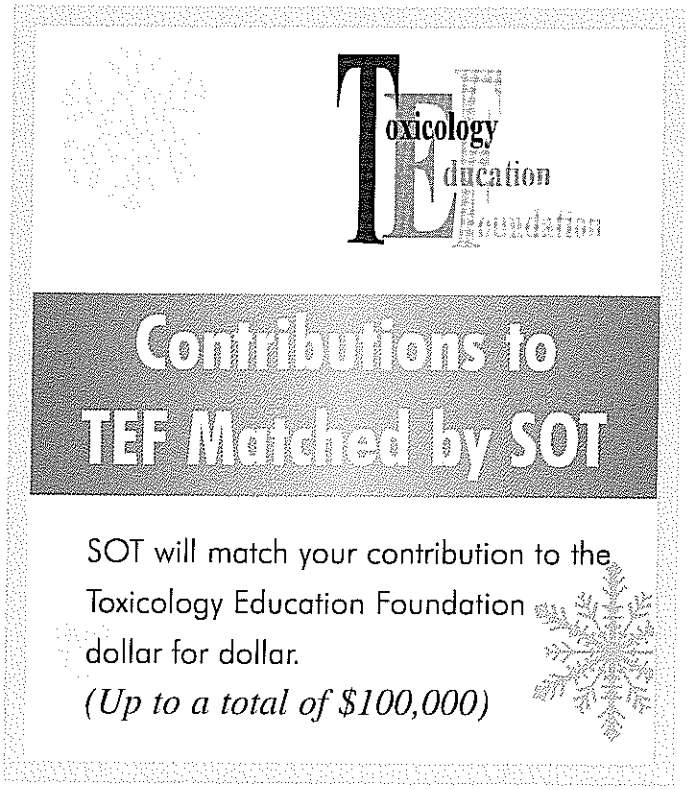
Continued to next page

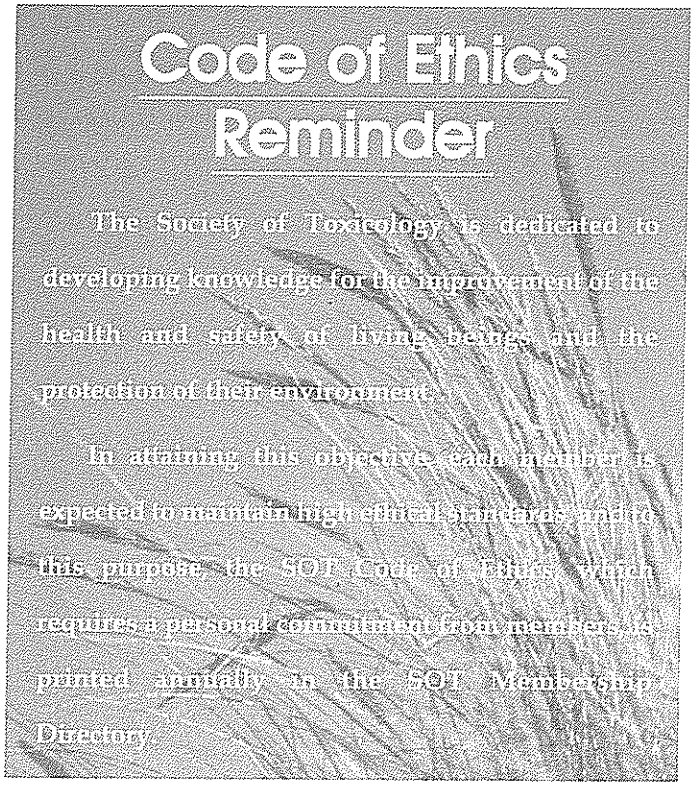
2000 Graduate Travel Award Recipients (Continued)

Weifemg Tang ..... University of Rhode Island, College of Pharmacy
Michael D. Taylor ..... West Virginia University
Evan A. Thackaberry ..... University of Wisconsin-Madison
George C. Tsao ..... Columbia University School of Public Health
Lisa M. Walker ..... University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Ling Wang ..... University of California, Riverside
Zhimou Wen ..... Cornell University
Michael J. Whitekus ..... Wayne State University
Hongwei Xue ..... Indiana University School Medicine
Steven B. Yee ..... Michigan State University
Meltem Yilmazer ..... Oregon State University
Hae-Seong Yoon ..... University of Texas at Austin
Husam S. Younis ..... University of Arizona
Zhanpeng Yuan ..... New York University School of Medicine
Shaoyu Zhou ..... University of Minnesota

2000 Burroughs Wellcome Fund Graduate Travel Recipients

Mary P. de la Rosa ..... West Virginia University
Dolores Diaz-Lopez ..... University of Washington
Jonathan A Doorn ..... University of Michigan
Winnie Jeng ..... University of Toronto
Shawn J. Kinser ..... Michigan State University
Christen P. Larsen ..... University of Minnesota, Duluth
Amy Collins Licata ..... North Carolina State University
Jianfeng Meng ..... Indiana University School of Medicine
Christine Lee Rabideau ..... VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine
Jason R. Richardson ..... Mississippi State University
Bryan K Shipp ..... University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
Konstantine W. Skordos ..... University of Utah





Teachers Invited to Investigate Toxicology at March Workshop

(Philadelphia) — Teachers of science in grades K–12 are invited to apply for a special day-long workshop, "Paracelsus Goes to School." Scheduled for Tuesday, March 21, 2000, at the Philadelphia Marriott, 1201 Market Street, this program is offered in conjunction with the Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Workshops are offered in three grade levels: K–3, 4–6 and 7–12. Participants will receive nationally recognized curricular materials that address selected national science education standards, and will have the unique opportunity to establish relationships with world-renowned scientists.

"The science of toxicology impacts all aspects of our lives — from studying harmful effects of chemicals to developing new treatments for illnesses," said **Elaine Knight, Ph.D.**, The R. W. Johnson Pharmaceutical Research Institute and chair of the workshop planning committee. "With this program, both students and educators will enhance their science literacy and gain an appreciation for their role in promoting the health of our society."

Paracelsus (1493–1541) is considered to be one of the founding fathers of the science of toxicology. His writings are generally credited as being the first to articulate a basic tenet of toxicology concerning the importance of the dose of a chemical as a determinant of whether or not it will be a poison. Toxicology studies the harmful effects of exposure to drugs, environmental contaminants and naturally occurring substances found in food, water, air and soil. Furthermore, toxicology is a basic biomedical science because its focus on discerning mechanisms by which chemicals can produce harmful effects often leads to new insight regarding fundamental aspects of biology. The discipline of toxicology plays a key role in defining conditions under which chemicals, including medicines, may be used to benefit people. In turn, toxicology is an excellent classroom subject to integrate the study of biology, chemistry, health, social issues and environmental concerns with investigative learning.

Workshop participants will engage in several hands-on learning activities, lectures and group discussions. A highlight of the day will be a mentor luncheon with scientists who are willing to visit classrooms. Teachers will also have the opportunity to visit the Annual Meeting exhibits and attend scientific sessions.

The goal of "Paracelsus Goes to School" is to offer educators new ideas to stimulate interest in science in the K–12 classroom. This unique program is organized and sponsored by the Society of Toxicology with a generous grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS).

A registration fee of $15 is required. Reimbursement for substitute teachers will be provided. Participants will also receive lunch and program materials. Pre-registration is necessary and spaces will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration forms and other program information may be obtained from the Society of Toxicology Web site, **http://www.toxicology.org**, or by contacting **Brenda Steinberg, MPH**, (732) 445-0110, rc@eohsi.rutgers.edu. Registration is open until the workshops are filled.

Education and Community Outreach Activities at the SOT Annual Meeting

Public Lecture

Living Safely with Chemicals in the New Millennium: How Toxicologists Help Decide What is Safe

Tuesday, March 21, 5:30 PM–7:30 PM

Auditorium of the Academy of Natural Sciences, 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia.

Undergraduate Education Program for Visiting Minority Students

Sunday, March 19, 8:00 AM–4:00 PM

Undergraduate minority students will be introduced to toxicology and encouraged to prepare for graduate school and a research career.

Education Outreach Workshop for Members

Toxicology for Kids Part II: The Classroom Experience

Monday, March 20, 1:30 PM–4:30 PM

Hear about the experiences of scientists who have engaged in classroom outreach and try the educational tools they have found effective.

Workshops for Teachers

Paracelsus Goes to School

Tuesday, March 21, 8:00 AM–4:30 PM

Workshops using classroom materials related to toxicology will be offered for Philadelphia area teachers in sessions for grades K–3, 4–6, and 7–12.

NIEHS Grantees Poster Discussion Session

Wednesday, March 22, 8:30 AM–11:30 AM

NIEHS grantees will present posters explaining nine projects that provide environmental health and health lessons for teachers and students in grades K–12.

K–12 Subcommittee Exhibit

Monday, March 20–Wednesday, March 22, 9:30 AM–4:30 PM

Stop by the Exhibit Hall to try out materials for toxicology education outreach in K–12 classrooms.

SOT 2000 Annual Meeting Sponsors

Platinum

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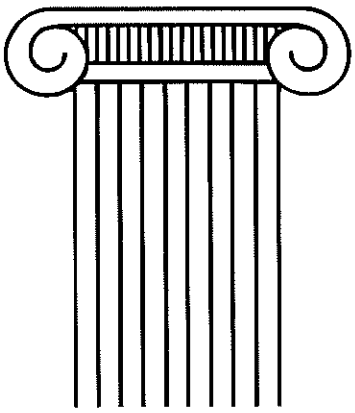
★ *Quintiles Preclinical* ★ *Sanofi-Synthelabo* ★ *TherImmune Research Corporation*
★ *Unilever Research* ★ *Wyeth-Ayerst Research*

SOT 2000 Annual Meeting Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship opportunities are available for the 2000 Annual Meeting. Your sponsorship serves as visible evidence of your organization's commitment to the science of toxicology. In addition, your sponsorship provides an opportunity for you to increase the overall awareness of your company to SOT members and 5,200 Annual Meeting attendees. As a sponsor, your company will receive recognition in the Final Program, *The Toxicologist*, the pre- and post-meeting newsletters, the Exhibitor Directory and in the meeting registration materials. In addition, acknowledgment signs will group sponsors by levels of giving and will be displayed at all the SOT functions during the Annual Meeting.

There are four levels of sponsorship available: platinum (over $5,000), gold ($2,000–$4,999), silver ($1,000–$1,999) and contributor ($500–$999). Your sponsorship will help offset the cost of the following functions: Minority Student Program, Student Evening Social, Continuing Education Program Refreshments, Graduate Students Luncheon, K–12 Teachers Workshops, Media Training Workshops, Welcoming Reception, and the Final Night Reception. If you are interested in SOT sponsorship, contact SOT Headquarters at (703) 438-3115 or E-mail: sothq@toxicology.org.



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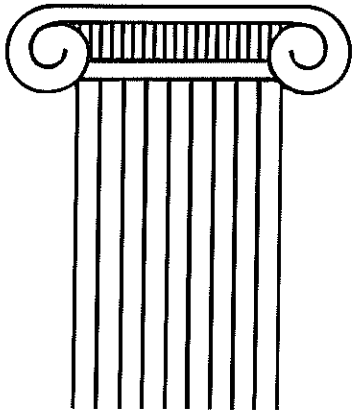

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2001 Guidelines for the Organization of Annual Meeting Scientific Sessions

Introduction

The Society of Toxicology encourages members to organize scientific sessions, on timely topics, for its 2001 Annual Meeting. Proposals may be submitted by any member, committee, Specialty Section or Chapter of SOT. Proposals intended for presentation at the 2001 Annual Meeting must be submitted by the session chairperson by **April 15, 2000**. Proposals must be communicated in writing to the Chairman of the Program Committee or the Vice President of the Society. All proposals with Specialty Section sponsorship must include a letter to this effect from the Specialty Section President. Proposals may not be submitted without the proper documentation forms, which were mailed with the winter newsletter and can be accessed on the SOT Web site at **www.toxicology.org**.

Proposals

Proposals should present reasons the session is desirable and provide some details. The following points should be addressed:

1) Justification of need for a session in the particular field. The number of sessions approved will be limited and the justification will be important in the Committee's evaluation. The justification should include the timeliness of the topic and whether a similar session has been presented at a scientific meeting in the recent past. Consultation with the appropriate SOT Specialty Section is required.
2) Proposed title.
3) Chairpersons **(must be member of SOT)**.
4) Names of proposed speakers, their professional affiliations, SOT membership status, titles of their presentations, and a one or two sentence synopsis of their topic (a maximum of two speakers per institution is recommended).
5) The intended year of presentation of the session.
6) Financial requirements, if any. (SOT will provide financial assistance to non-SOT member speakers, on a case-by-case basis.)
7) Specialty Section endorsement and/or Specialty Section financial sponsorship.
8) Publication plans, if any.

Types of Sessions

Symposia -

Subject Matter:
- "Cutting-edge" science, new areas for toxicologists; new concepts or approaches, new data.

Total Presentation Time:
- Three hours or less.

Speakers and Presentations:
- Chairperson and 4-5 speakers.
- Approximately 30-35 minutes per speaker.
- Summary of symposium by last speaker.

Comments:
Format designed for presentation of new information. Short period for questions and discussion suggested following each presentation. Symposium should be concluded with a brief summary and short period for general discussion.

Workshops -

Subject Matter:
- Topic requiring intensive study and discussion.

Total Presentation Time:
- Three hours or less.

Speakers and Presentations:
- One to five speakers.
- Informal, interactive presentations.
- Emphasis on discussion.

Comments:
Format design for conveying detailed "how-to" information.

Roundtables -

Subject Matter:
- Controversial subjects.

Total Presentation Time:
- Approximately 1 hour.

Speakers and Presentation:
- Moderator and 2-4 speakers.
- Moderator presents overview.
- Each speaker makes a 3-5 minute statement (Moderator coordinates the comment).
- Balance of time for questions and discussion.

Comments:
Format design for discussion of controversial information between speakers, with audience participation encouraged.

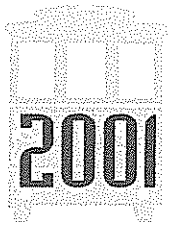
Approval of Sessions

After receipt of a proposal, it will be presented to the Program Committee in May. The results of committee action will be transmitted promptly to the proposed chairpersons by the chair of the Program Committee. If the session is approved, the chair of the Program Committee will then provide further instructions concerning follow-up correspondence with speakers, completion of the session overview and speaker abstracts, finalization of the program, date of the session, and publication procedures if it is to be published. **Final information will be due at SOT Headquarters during the month of July.**

Publication

All SOT-sponsored sessions come under the general guidelines for publication of SOT-related activities, (i.e., the editors of the official journals, *Toxicological Sciences* and *TAP*, have first right of refusal regarding publications from the SOT sessions).

Guidelines for the Organization of a Continuing Education Course



Introduction

The Society of Toxicology is committed to presenting quality Continuing Education (CE) courses at its Annual Meeting. The CE Committee invites you to submit an outline for potential courses for inclusion in the 2001 program of the SOT Annual Meeting. Proposal forms for submission of an idea for a CE course were included in the Winter issue of the *Communiqué* and are also available at the SOT Web site at **www.toxicology.org**. The emphasis is on quality presentations of state-of-the-art knowledge in toxicology, and a syllabus of course content is provided. These courses allow SOT members to keep abreast of fundamental concepts and new developments in toxicology and related disciplines, and may be applicable to the education requirements of many certifying and licensing boards.

The CE courses are taught on the first day (Sunday) of the SOT Annual Meeting. Sunrise courses, which consist of one 45-min presentation followed by a question-answer period, are presented on topics of current interest. In addition, approximately seven courses are offered concurrently in the morning and another seven in the afternoon. These courses run for three and one-half hours. Generally, a brief overview by the chairperson (10-min) is followed by four 40 min presentations.

The CE committee is responsible for screening the proposals submitted in order to select a balanced portfolio of courses covering both fundamental topics and advances or new technologies. Furthermore, the CE committee solicits proposals in selected priority topic areas of interest to the membership.

Organizing Continuing Education Courses

Any member, Committee, Specialty Section, or Regional Chapter of SOT may propose CE Courses. Specialty Sections, Chapters, or Committees are encouraged to endorse proposals. No financial obligation is associated with an endorsement. Proposals for the next SOT Annual Meeting must be submitted by **April 15th** in the preceding year. A cover letter which summarizes the major aspects of the course and states why the proposed course is a priority, should accompany the proposal form. The proposal must contain the following items:

1. A title, listing of the proposed course as basic or advanced and a statement as to the year that the course is to be given must be provided.

2. The chairperson(s) **must** be an SOT member. A $100 payment will be provided to each course chair to offset the administrative cost of developing the course and maintaining the necessarily tight timeline.

3. The name, affiliation, and SOT membership status of each presenter, and a two- to four-sentence summary of each proposed presentation, should be included. In the selection of speakers, clarity of presentation, organization, and attention to detail are priorities. Chairpersons are required to obtain a tentative agreement from proposed speakers before course submission.

4. Please beware that rigid timelines are required for development of the course syllabus (outline) for the course. Drafts of the slides to be presented are due to the SOT CE Committee in early December and the final copy is due in early January.

5. A $500 remuneration is provided to each speaker in a course to offset the cost of slides and other preparations. SOT will provide travel assistance for one non-SOT member per course (in certain instances, funding for more than one speaker may be provided by SOT). All non-SOT speaker funding must be justified and approved by the CE Committee. SOT provides travel, two nights lodging, and waives meeting registration for non-member speakers. By SOT policy, SOT member speakers are responsible for their own arrangements.

Approval of a Continuing Education Course

The chairperson of the CE Committee presents proposals to committee members for their consideration in May. Both the quality of the proposal and a need for a balanced offering of courses are important considerations in the selection process. The matrix of past course offerings and requests of SOT members are taken into consideration in the selection process. There is a concerted effort each year to provide courses that update fundamentals, integrate advancing technologies, and provide new perspectives. The intent of these courses is to meet the diverse needs and evolving careers of the SOT membership. Following selection of courses by the CE Committee, a slate of proposed courses is presented to Council at the May meeting. The recommendation of the Committee and the decision of Council are relayed to the Course Chair soon thereafter.

Course Liaisons

A member of the CE Committee is selected as the liaison for each course. The course liaison is the immediate link between the course chair and SOT. While the course chair organizes/finalizes instructors and the course content, the review and revision of the syllabus are a coordinated activity shared by the course chair and the liaison. The liaison assists in the communication between SOT and the chairperson to ensure logistical support for the course by SOT staff before and during presentation at the Annual Meeting.

To obtain forms, go to the SOT Web site at **www.toxicology.org**. Proposals are due **April 15, 2000**. We look forward to receiving your proposal.

2000-2001 CE Committee Members

Judy Zelikoff . . .judyz@env.med.nyu.edu. 914-731-3528

Darlene Dixon . .dixon@niehs.nih.gov 919-541-3814

Yvonne Dragan . .dragan.6@osu.edu 614-293-3713

Julio Divila . . . .julio.c.davila@monsanto.com . . . 314-694-8613

Patricia Ganey . .ganey@pilot.msu.edu 517-432-1761

Thomas Jones . . .jonestw@lilly.com 317-277-4195

Rosita J. Rodriguez . . . . . .rosita.rodriguez@orst.edu. 547-737-5786

Don Robertson . .donald.robertson@wl.com 734-622-7534

William B. Mattes . . . . . .william.b.mattes@am.pnu.com. . 616-833-9603

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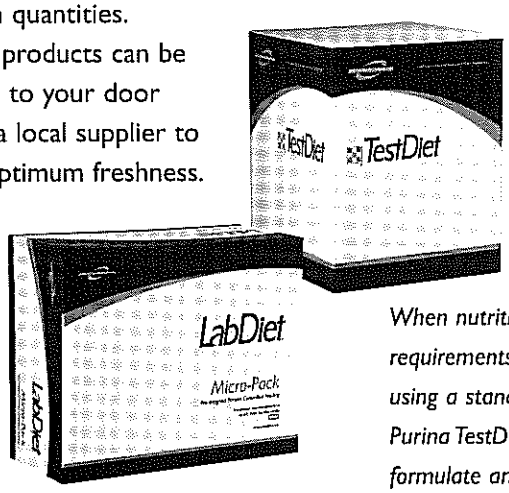

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Getting Started on the Hill: Communication from Your 2000-2001 Congressional Fellow

Continued from page 3

I am working with the Office of Pest Management Policy (OPMP) in the Department of Agriculture. OPMP is located in the Agriculture Building on Independence Avenue between the Washington Monument and the Capitol. They are concerned with the needs of the agricultural community for safe, effective chemicals to protect crops against insects, weeds and fungal infections. A major part of OPMP's mission is to provide scientific insight and perspective for legislative and regulatory discussions regarding the use and regulation of agricultural chemicals. They are, for example, playing a major role in implementation of the Food Quality Protection Act. OPMP has a highly motivated and well-balanced staff for their mission with the exception that they are lacking expertise in toxicology. Thus, we make an excellent match and they have made me feel most welcome. OPMP has also agreed to permit me the freedom to establish liaisons with a number of house and senate committees, e.g. agriculture and commerce, and agency offices. The purpose of these liaisons will be to permit me to work, on an "ad hoc" basis, on specific problems and legislation where expertise in toxicology is needed. I look forward to reporting my progress in future newsletters.

Workshop: Human Tissue Models in Risk Assessment

A Contemporary Concepts in Toxicology Workshop on "Human Tissue Models in Risk Assessment," organized by the SOT Task Force to Improve the Scientific Basis of Risk Assessment (RATF), was held September 20-22, 1999, at the Turf Valley Conference Center in Ellicott City, MD. The workshop was designed to bring together a core group of internationally recognized invited experts and experienced users of these models to consider the state-of-the-art in the use of human cell and tissue models for the prediction of human metabolism, toxicity, and pharmacokinetic behavior. Such models are becoming increasingly important tools for regulatory decision-making, and the goal of the workshop was to develop consensus recommendations regarding the use of such models in regulatory decision-making and risk assessment.

The Workshop was organized into three specific areas of application: 1) prediction of metabolism and drug-drug interactions, chaired by **Dr. Jerry Collins** of the US Food and Drug Administration Center for Drug Evaluation and Research; 2) prediction of toxicity, chaired by **Dr. Charles Tyson** of SRI International; and 3) quantitative modeling, chaired by **Dr. Yuichi Sugiyama**, Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutics at the University of Tokyo and current Chair of the Board of Pharmaceutical Sciences of the International Pharmaceutical Federation. A core group of 12 invited scientists summarized the scientific state-of-the-art and presented recommendations for discussion. One hundred and seventeen attendees, including many experts in the field, were asked to participate in the development of consensus recommendations that will be published in *Toxicological Sciences*.

The format proved very successful, with insightful presentations and recommendations from the "core" participants and a lively and productive discussion by the highly knowledgeable audience. Following the two-day workshop, the "core" participants and organizers spent an extra one-half day drafting an outline of the consensus recommendations achieved. Among the participants were: **Steven A. Wrighton, Ph.D.**, Lilly Research Laboratories, Indianapolis, IN, **Melvin Andersen, Ph.D.**, Colorado State University, Center for Environmental Toxicology and Technology, Fort Collins, CO, **J. Brian Houston, Ph.D.**, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK, **Gregory L. Kedderis, Ph.D.**, Chemical Industry Institute of Toxicology, Research Triangle Park, NC, **Fred F. Kadlubar, Ph.D.**, National Center for Toxicology Research, US FDA, Jefferson, AR,

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Workshop: The Harmonization of Cancer and Non-Cancer Risk Assessment

As part of the Society of Toxicology's Contemporary Concepts in Toxicology Workshop Series, the Workshop on the Harmonization of Cancer and Non-Cancer Risk Assessment was held in Arlington, VA, November 1-3, 1999. This workshop was the culmination of over a year's planning by the co-sponsors and organizers: the Society of Toxicology, the US Environmental Protection Agency, the American Industrial Health Council, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and the Society for Risk Analysis.

Assessment of risk from exposures to environmental agents has traditionally been performed differently, depending on whether the response is cancer or a non-cancer health effect. However, there is a growing recognition that a more consistent and unified approach to risk assessment for all human health endpoints should be encouraged. The purpose of the workshop was to provide a forum for the exchange of views on the most critical issues involved in developing a unified approach to risk assessment for all toxic endpoints.

Over 100 experts in the field of toxicology and risk assessment met over the three days to discuss current practices and future trends in risk assessment. Guided by focus questions related to the harmonization of risk assessment approaches, three work groups focused on the use of mode of action as the basis for harmonization, comparison of adverse effects across toxicities, and the use of scaling and uncertainty factors. The discussions helped to identify the range of opinions in response to the focus questions, and to build consensus where possible. A summary of the workshop will be published in *Toxicological Sciences* in 2000.

Proposed By-Laws Revisions

In an effort to clearly define supporters of SOT and to reflect the increased number of Regional Chapters and Specialty Sections in the nomination of candidates for the Nominating Committee, SOT's Council has recommended changes to the By-Laws. These amendments will be discussed at the SOT Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 2000, at 4:30 p.m. A ballot will be mailed to voting members in April. If you would like further clarification of these proposals, please feel free to contact **Shawn Lamb** at SOT Headquarters.

Codes:
~~Strikeouts~~=Delete **Underlined/Bolded**= Addition

Proposed changes to the SOT Constitution, 1999-2000

ARTICLE THIRD, SECTION 7. MEMBERSHIP:

Section 7. ~~Corporate~~ SOT Associates. The President of the Society, with the approval of the Council, may on an annual basis invite any firm, association, corporation, institution or subdivision thereof, to become **an** ~~Corporate~~ SOT Associate in support of the Society.

Proposed changes to SOT By-Laws, 1999-2000

ARTICLE FOURTH, SECTION 2.
NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Section 2. ....Candidates for election to the Nominating Committee shall be submitted to the Secretary prior to November 1. They shall be determined in the following manner: (1) **A portion** ~~Each~~ of ~~four~~ **the** Regional Chapters will nominate one candidate; from this group, one member shall be elected by a plurality vote. Council shall determine, and may revise from time to time, a rotation plan for selecting the ~~four~~ chapters that is based on having chapters of similar size nominate individuals in any given year. (2) **A portion** ~~Each~~ of ~~three~~ the Specialty Sections will nominate one candidate; from this group, one member shall be elected by a plurality vote. Council shall determine, and may revise from time to time, a rotation plan for selecting the ~~three~~ sections that is based on having sections of similar size nominate individuals in any given year.

Science on the Hill: My Year in Review

Continued from page 3

authority. Congress has two very important powers where science and policy often meet: oversight and legislation. At the beginning of the 106th Congress, House Committees established written oversight plans for the first time as required pursuant to new House rules. Congressional oversight is a very significant function, which is often underutilized and generally underappreciated — but critical to bureaucratic efficiency. Issue identification, prioritization, and distillation of complex scientific information are essential to proper regulatory oversight. Although it would be somewhat naïve to suggest that all legislative decisions are subject to intense scientific scrutiny and made solely on the basis of "sound science," science is often employed by legislators to navigate through the dense forest of issues facing them and their constituents. Nonetheless, it is also important to understand real limitations pertaining to the use of science in decision-making. Constituent interests, negotiation and political expediency often influence many of the decisions ultimately made in Congress. This realization unto itself is important for scientists to understand.

Toxicologists can play a key role in legislative and regulatory decision-making. The concept of "dose-response" must be promoted amongst legislators. The importance of such a simple concept cannot be overstated and must never be overlooked when discussing potential public health risks. Although we can appreciate the tenet that "the dose makes the poison," legislators, regulators, consumers, and members of the press often ignore this fundamental concept. The relationship between specific environmental contaminants (whether it be exposure to contaminants through air, water or food) and potential human health outcomes must be presented in an intelligible manner to legislators exercising their legislative and oversight authorities in the areas of environmental and public health regulation. Debates, such as those now focussed on phthalates in children's toys, high volume production chemicals, oxygenates such as methyl tertiary butyl ether in groundwater, and pesticides used in crops and for urban pest control, largely revolve around the hazard side of the risk equation only. Little, if any of these discussions ever consider actual exposure to these agents when evaluating risk. In addition, legislators rarely understand (or feel the need to understand) how the shape of a dose response curve can affect regulatory decisions and public perception. We can certainly appreciate the potential ramifications and profound impacts of such policy choices as noted by recent decisions to regulate chloroform in water at 0 PPM, as well as the apparent growing trend of non-threshold decisions being made for a number of pesticides with little transparency. The bottom line is — whether we agree or disagree with these

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Science on the Hill: My Year in Review

Continued from page 21

decisions — regulatory and legislative actions should be guided and informed by a scientific weight of the evidence approach and grounded in peer-reviewed science. Marginalizing science by intentionally inflating exposure and risk estimates, employing unnecessarily conservative default assumptions, and ignoring basic risk assessment tenets (exposure and dose-response evaluations) could invariably compromise both the effectiveness and efficiency of many of our public health programs.

Pesticide regulation and biotechnology highlight such scientifically complex, highly emotional, and economically important issues currently challenging Congress. The latter part of my year was largely focused on the implementation of the Food Quality Protection Act as well as food biotechnology. Bringing truthful, objective science to the debate continues to be a priority for legislators. Fueled by the animus resulting from recent regulatory decisions made on the third anniversary of the enactment of the Food Quality Protection Act this past August, both the House and Senate have been actively engaged in overseeing implementation activities and seeking possible legislative remedies. Children's exposure and health concerns, endocrine disruption, and methodologies related to toxicology endpoint selection still dominate much of the discussion in this area. Aggressive educational and oversight initiatives also continue in the burgeoning area of food biotechnology. Both consumers in the US and abroad have been bombarded with information and misinformation regarding this relatively new and promising technology. Although little to no substantive evidence suggests a reason for concern, questions pertaining to the human health and safety of products derived from biotechnology pervade this area now more than ever. Scientific consensus, insight and balance must be brought to bear on this issue. With media zeal, political motives and environmental interests overwhelming this debate, scientists must forge and often lead discussion and subsequent resolution in this area. In order to provide key decision-makers and consumers with objective information regarding the safety of these products, scientists must also facilitate the collection, organization, interpretation and dissemination of scientific information to stakeholders.

Final Thoughts:

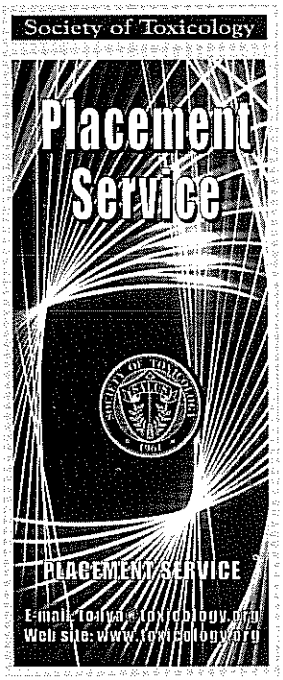
SOT has recognized an opportunity that many scientific organizations have been taking advantage of for years (AAAS, etc.) — providing opportunities for scientists to experience and participate in the legislative process first-hand is a 'win-win' situation for both the individual and the organization. As toxicologists are becoming more civic minded, we must continue to proactively leverage our expertise within the public policy arena. Members of Congress generally do not have backgrounds in science. Yet more and more often, these elected officials are asked to make important policy and legal decisions on issues fraught with substantial technical components. As a result, it is a constant challenge to find proficient and accessible scientific experts to inform decisions and policy options in the fast-paced environment of legislative decision-making. Moreover, understanding what science can and cannot deliver is just as important to the decision-making process. There will always be some level of scientific uncertainty which legislators and regulators must wrestle with. However, "sound science" and the scientific process can provide an infrastructure for describing these uncertainties, developing research and policy options in light of these uncertainties, and crafting meaningful solutions.

Toxicologists can and should continue to actively search for opportunities to get involved with state and federal governments. Educational initiatives, such as an upcoming SOT Congressional briefing planned for February, 2000 pertaining to food biotechnology and the Precautionary Principle, represent but one medium for toxicologists to proactively showcase their knowledge on issues important to Capitol Hill legislators. Throughout this year I have looked for similar opportunities to explore and discuss the role of science in decision-making. Specifically, I presented my personal views on this matter in a talk entitled, "Legislating Children's Health: Can and Should Science Meet the Challenge?" at the annual ACS meeting earlier this year. In addition, I recently discussed the importance of communicating science to legislators at a recent session held by the National Capitol Area Chapter of the Society of Toxicology.

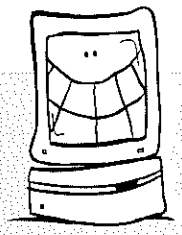
The Fellow's role as ambassador truly is critical to bringing toxicology expertise to bear on a number of public health issues. Environmental and public health issues generally hinge on three fundamental questions: Does a hazard exist? Is it safe? How can these risks be assessed and managed in an effective and efficient manner? The notions of hazard identification and exposure assessment are fundamental to the underlying question of risk. Few disciplines outside of toxicology are sufficiently equipped to explore such questions. In my brief tenure in Congress, I have seen and been able to appreciate the value of informed dialogue and debate in the legislative process. I look forward to my continued involvement with my colleagues in SOT and on the Regulatory and Legislative Affairs Committee (RALA). I would also like to acknowledge the tremendous support, guidance, and insight offered during the year from many within the society. I would especially like to recognize the members of RALA with a particular thanks to **John Keller, Harry Olson** as Chair of RALA, **Jay Goodman,** and **Deborah Hyman** for their invaluable assistance and leadership throughout. In addition, I'd also like to express my sincere gratitude to the US House Committee on Agriculture for providing me with such a rich experience, as well as my employer, Dow AgroSciences, for allowing me to take advantage of this opportunity.

Job Opportunities On-line

Submitted by ***José E. Manautou****, Co-Director, Placement Committee*



One of the functions of the Placement Committee is to provide SOT members and non-members with a mechanism for the exchange of information between potential employers and candidates with appropriate credentials and expertise in toxicology and related fields. In the past, this service was limited to the Annual Meeting, where an active posting and message center served as the only link between individuals seeking jobs and potential employers. Almost three years ago, the Placement Committee developed an "on-line" service that now provides year-round access to information on job opportunities and candidates. With this system, you can perform searches using categories such as area of expertise, years of experience, geographical preferences and type of position. Individuals who register have unrestricted access to Placement On-line for six months. At the end of this period, their information is automatically removed from the system, unless registration is renewed for an additional six-month period. In order to make this system more user-friendly, we have gathered a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) based on the number of inquiries received at SOT headquarters from users of the system. This list can be found on our Web site. We would like to encourage new registrants to study the list in order to familiarize themselves with the system. These FAQ's will also appear in subsequent issues of the *Communiqué*. The Placement Committee will also develop and implement an on-line tutorial session that will cover the basic points about the use of Placement On-line. Sample resumes and job descriptions will also be available on-line. We encourage SOT members who have used our on-line service to contact us with additional questions and suggestions. Your comments will be taken into consideration as part of our efforts to improve the quality of this service. You can contact **Tonya Mills** at SOT headquarters (tonya@toxicology.org) or **José E. Manautou,** Co-Director of Placement Committee (Manautou @uconnvm.uconn.edu).



Frequently Asked Questions About the On-line Placement Service

1. **Is SOT Placement On-line a year-round service or is it limited to the Annual Meeting only?**

   Placement On-line is a year-round service with unrestricted access. You can enter the system and perform searches for posted positions or candidates as often as you want. Unlimited access is dependent upon renewal of registration every six months.

2. **Why is my SOT member number not working? I have entered my SOT member number and it is coming up invalid?**

   Your SOT member number gives you access to members-only sites in SOT's Web page, but not to Placement On-line. Once you register and pay your registration fee, you can set up a log-in name and password to gain access to Placement On-line.

3. **What is the difference between assisted and non-assisted registration?**

   Assisted registration is when an employer or candidate submits their job description or resume to SOT Headquarters staff for input into the system. Non-assisted registration is when the employer or candidate enters the information themselves.

4. **I am a registered employer with Placement On-line and cannot view other job listings. Why?**

   The system is set up for employers to search candidate information only. An employer with access to other employer's posting raises an issue of confidentiality.

Continued on next page

SOT Fax-On-Demand (800) 529-8635 Call the toll-free SOT information line for Annual Meeting Materials.

PLACEMENT SERVICES

Research Position — Neuropharmacology/Electrophysiology

ManTech Environmental's Toxic Hazards Research laboratory located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, has a vacancy for a challenging position in a toxicology research laboratory. Major responsibilities are to design, develop, and conduct electrophysiological/neuropharmacological studies to determine and evaluate effects of chemicals of interest to the Navy; to provide guidance for laboratory personnel on design of electrophysiological/neuropharmacological studies; to interpret study results and communicate findings at scientific meetings and through peer-reviewed journals; and to interact with laboratory scientists and associates in a team research environment. Minimum requirements include: (1) Ph.D. in neurological sciences (e.g., neuropharmacology, neurotoxicology, neurophysiology), (2) demonstrated expertise in electrophysiology/neuropharmacology techniques, such as intra- and extra-cellular unit recordings, patch clamp, multi-unit recording and analysis, micro-spritz, pico-spritz, and iontophoresis neuropharmacology procedures, (3) knowledge of rat behavior and experience with correlating neurophysiological activity to behavior patterns, (4) demonstrated competence in oral and writing skills in the English language, and (5) must be a US citizen or have resident alien status.

Send resume and salary history to: Human Resources/4241/11, ManTech Environmental Technology, Inc., P.O. Box 31009, Dayton, OH 45437-31009; E-mail: mary.angell@wpafb.af.mil

EEO M/F/D/V urged to apply

Regulatory Review Pharmacologist/Toxicologist

The US FDA, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research is recruiting pharmacologists/toxicologists to serve as regulatory drug application reviewers. Reviewers are assigned to multidisciplinary scientific teams which evaluate studies submitted by pharmaceutical manufactures in support of New Drug and Investigational New Drug Applications (NDA/NDIs). They evaluate the quality and adequacy of manufactures' tests, determine the validity of safety and efficacy claims, write reports and monitor events on marketed drugs. Basic requirement is a degree in pharmacology/toxicology. A doctorate degree in the discipline and experience in pharmaceutical development, testing, coupled with good analytical and communicative skills are highly desired for these positions. Candidates for Civil Service or Commissioned Corps appointments must be US Citizens. Permanent US residents can apply for Staff Fellowship appointment. Civil Service GS-12/13, $48,796 to $75,433, (this does not reflect new salary rates for year 2000), including an excellent benefits package. Send resume with a cover letter indicating that you are applying under source code 100027 (SOT Newsletter) to: Food and Drug Administration, 7520 Standish Place, Room 211, Rockville, Maryland 20855, Attn: CDER Recruitment

Toxicologist

Dow AgroSciences LLC, a global leader in providing pest management and biotechnology products, has an immediate opening for a Toxicologist in our Global Health, Environmental Sciences/Regulatory group at our corporate headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana. This individual will provide mammalian toxicological expertise and leadership to support Dow AgroSciences global businesses. The successful candidate will guide toxicological research and regulatory testing programs for discovery, predevelopment, reregistration and product defense.

The successful candidate must have a doctorate in toxicology, biomedical science or a related field. Expertise in pharmacokinetics and metabolism and/or molecular toxicology is preferred. The successful candidate also must have strong scientific and communication skills as well as the ability to collaborate with teams of scientists from diverse disciplines on complex projects. This individual will interact with academic and governmental scientists and lead programs for Dow AgroSciences as well as the crop protection industry.

The Dow AgroSciences world headquarters is located in Indianapolis, Indiana, in a new complex that houses over 1,000 of the company's employees. The facilities include a learning center and health and fitness programs while the location provides the advantages of a major metro area plus the comfortable hospitality of the Midwest. Dow AgroSciences offers excellent career opportunities, as well as competitive compensation and benefit packages. For consideration, please send your resume with your current salary requirements in confidence to: Dow AgroSciences LLC, Human Resources Recruiting, 9330 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. An affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

Continued from previous page

5. **My log-in name and password are not working. Can you help me?**

   Either your registration has expired or you are trying to enter your SOT membership number to log-in. Please refer to FAQ #2.

6. **I have gone to the Web site but do not see where I enter my information. Is there any way to view a sample resume or posted position before registering?**

   No, you must register before gaining access to the system. A tutorial session as well as sample resumes and job descriptions will be available in the near future to assist you with the input of your information.

7. **How long does it take to validate my registration? How soon would my information appear on the Web site?**

   After your registration is completed and submitted, it takes less than 48 hours for validation. You will receive an e-mail message confirming your login, password, and that you are ready to begin using Placement On-line.

Now we offer both sides of the coin...

TPS (Toxicology Pathology Services Inc.) has joined BAS (Bioanalytical Systems Inc.). One company with a sterling reputation for contract toxicology and pathology is now part of another company with a golden record of performance for contract analytical services. Both have served the pharmaceutical industry for many years, and now they're working together. Consider the advantages:

Superb animal care, fully accredited by AAALAC, for a wide range of mammalian species. Acute toxicology, carcinogenesis and reproductive studies.

Seamless connections between preclinical animal studies and bioanalytical services cut weeks from IND and NDA schedules.

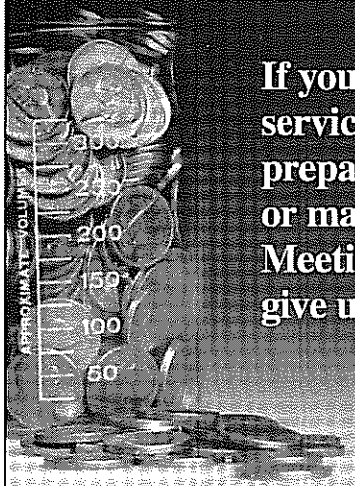
Customized protocols, more efficient sample handling, timely method development and expedited analytical scheduling.

Final reports in your own format (electronic and hard copy).

We design and manufacture our own analytical instruments, including cutting-edge technology such as our new Culex Automated Blood Sampler.

Personal relationships and corporate partnerships. We're a large, stable organization that values personal contacts between your scientists and our study directors.

If you are in need of acute or chronic toxicology or pathology services, or bioanalytical chemistry including sample preparation, methods development, liquid chromatography or mass spectrometry, stop by our exhibit at the SOT National Meeting and give us your two cents worth, or drop a dime and give us a call. We'd like to think of this as change for the better.



BAS

www.bioanalytical.com **Booth 821**

REGIONAL CHAPTER NEWS

OHIO VALLEY CHAPTER

The annual fall meeting of the Ohio Valley Society of Toxicology was held in Louisville, Kentucky, November 11-12, 1999. The meeting was attended by approximately 120 participants from across the Ohio Valley region. The featured symposium was "Genetic Susceptibility to Environmental Toxins," chaired by **Dr. David Hein** and **Dr. Russell Prough**, both of the University of Louisville.

The featured speakers and the titles of their presentations were: "Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics: Ethnic and Genetic Differences in Toxicity and Cancer," by **Dr. Daniel W. Nebert**, Center for Genetics and Department of Environmental Health, University of Cincinnati; "Genetic Susceptibility to Colon and Pancreatic Cancer and the Development of High Thoughput Genotyping Methods," by **Dr. Fred F. Kadlubar**, Division of Molecular Epidemiology, National Center for Toxicological Research; "Dioxins, Clocks and Oxygen: Prototype Signals of an Environmental Sensor Superfamily," by **Dr. Chris Bradfield**, McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research, University of Wisconsin-Madison; and "Functional Outcome of the Interaction Between the Ah Receptor and the Retinoblastoma Protein," by **Dr. Alvaro Puga**, Center for Genetics and Department of Environmental Health, University of Cincinnati.

Over 40 research posters were also presented at the meeting, and pre-doctoral graduate student posters competed for awards. **Dr. Steve Frantz**, Bristol Myers Squibb; **Dr. Tom Mably**, Bristol Myers Squibb; and **Dr. August Wilke**, Eli Lilly, served as judges. **Scott Heid, Matthew Cooper** and **Adrian Fretland** were the first, second and third place winners. **Mr. Scott Heid,** by virtue of his selection for the top research poster, was offered and accepted the position of student representative to national SOT.

President David Hein from the University of Louisville presided over the business meeting. **Dr. Steve R. Myers** from the University of Louisville was elected the new Vice-President. **Dr. Yvonne P. Dragan** from Ohio State University ascended to President-Elect, and **Dr. Joseph C. Siglin** of Springborn Laboratories ascended to President.

NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER

The National Capital Area Chapter of the SOT (NCAC-SOT) held a successful Fall Meeting. This was the Chapter's 17th annual Fall Meeting and Symposium which was held at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, MD, on November 17, 1999. The topic of the all-day symposium was "Toxicology and Risk Communication." An all-time chapter meeting attendance record was established with 140 persons registered for the day, and 40 new members joined the chapter. The symposium provided attendees an opportunity to learn about the importance of good and effective risk communication from the perspective of toxicologists working in academia, the private sector, and on Capitol Hill; an attorney; a journalist; and a media-training expert. The following speakers and topics were presented. **Jay Goodman,** (President, Society of Toxicology) presented "The Society of Toxicology's Initiative to Promote Science-Based Risk Assessment, and Altered DNA Methylation: An Epigenetic Mechanism Involved in Carcinogenesis." **John Young** (President, The Hampshire Research Institute, Alexandria, VA) spoke on "You Can't Provide a Useful Answer Unless You've Heard the Question." **Brad Shurdut,** who just completed a term as the SOT's first Congressional Fellow, shared his perspectives on interacting with congressional staff persons in "Risk Communication and the Legislative Process: Injecting Sound Science into the Public Policy Debate." **Rena Steinzor** (law professor, University of Maryland School of Law, and Director, University of Maryland Environmental Law Clinic, Baltimore, MD) discussed issues surrounding "Lawyers and Scientists: When the Twain Meet." **Sara Thurin Rollin** (Environment Reporter, BNA Bureau of Environmental News, Washington, DC) discussed communication and relationships between scientists and journalists in "Effective Risk Communication: Avoiding the Pitfalls." The final presentation was a short media-training workshop by **Joe Slye** (Media relations expert, Kalish Communications, Washington, DC) who spoke on "Taking the Risk Out of Your Communication." These speakers articulated stimulating and provocative ideas that generated good discussion that carried over into the closing wine and cheese reception. The presentations were chaired by **Joy Cavagnaro** (Chapter President) and **Carole Kimmel** (Past President), and the Symposium was organized by **Peter Goering** (Vice-President) and other chapter officers.

"Give me a place to stand and I will move the earth."

— Archimedes, concerning levers (circa 235 B.C.)

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President's Message

Continued from page 2

Placing an emphasis upon research as our Society's first priority shows that we are cognizant of the fact that this provides the foundation for our credibility as individual scientists and the credibility of SOT. The enhancement of the incorporation of sound science into risk assessment is our second priority. Clearly, the first priority provides the foundation for the second. Basic research leading to an enhanced understanding of the mechanism/mode of action of the chemical (or physical agent) of interest, in combination with accurate exposure assessment, provides the basis upon which more rational approaches to risk assessment may be built. This is important because enhancing the scientific basis of risk assessment can result in more sound decisions leading to both improved protection of human health and the environment, and a wiser utilization of our limited financial resources, i.e., a win-win situation. Furthermore, we need to recognize that the way the general public and, importantly, our colleagues in other scientific disciplines perceive toxicology is influenced strongly by what they read and hear about risk assessment decisions. The credibility of the discipline of toxicology is diminished when these decisions are seemingly at odds with science and common sense.

In my view, support and advancement of basic and applied research in toxicology, and incorporation of sound science into risk assessment should continue to be SOT's top priorities. Pursuant to this, I believe that our LRP meeting provides an opportunity to shift an appropriately higher percentage of our spending to these areas. This could, for example, permit us to: a) have LCD projectors available for all of the symposia, workshops and continuing education courses at our Annual Meeting, at cost that is in the neighborhood of $50,000 or more; b) bring more outside speakers to our Annual Meeting's symposia and workshops; c) have the Society sponsor a pre/post-doctoral fellowship; and d) increase the number of pages for *Toxicological Sciences*. [We have added pages recently to accommodate the increased number of manuscripts that the Journal is attracting. This is a sign of success and attributable directly to the Editor, **Curt Klaassen,** and all of the individuals who are working for the Journal.] The increased funds could come from: a) some increases in overall efficiency, e.g., more use of conference calls plus e-mail to replace some committee meetings, and b) some decreases in what we are doing currently in selected other areas, not that these are unimportant, but that not all areas can be of equal importance. Additionally, we shall continue to seek opportunities to partner with other groups (government, private industry, trade associations, nonprofit/not for profit organizations and the Toxicology Education Foundation) in order to leverage our resources. I have planned the schedule for our LRP meeting so that time is provided for Council to engage in a period of introspection to consider drawing a distinction between those activities that simply make us feel good as compared to those that are most important for the overall advancement of toxicological sciences. We will then be positioned to proceed to prioritize the areas that SOT can, and should, impact positively.

The results of the meeting will be communicated to you in a succeeding issue of the *Communiqué* and at the Business Meeting at our Annual Meeting in March 2000.

While talking about planning and priorities, I want you to know that the SOT Leadership and SOT Headquarters are cognizant of the fact that our main asset and main priority is you, the membership. I look forward to seeing you and speaking with you at our 2000 Annual Meeting. In particular, I urge you to attend the Society's Business Meeting and the Town Meeting scheduled for Wednesday morning March 22nd. Your views are important to us. Additionally, I look forward to seeing our students and post-doctoral fellows at the student / post-doctoral fellow mixer on Sunday evening March 19th. At that time, in addition to a few words of welcome, I will spend a couple of minutes talking about an important new development, the formation of a Student Advisory Committee to SOT Council.

The Program Committee (Chaired by **Dan Acosta**, Co-Chaired by **Dave Eaton**) and the Continuing Education Committee (Chaired by **Judy Zelikoff**) have put together an outstanding scientific program for our 2000 Annual Meeting. I look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia.

Jay I. Goodman, Ph.D.
1999-2000 President

Member Survey...

Continued from page 1

- **More than three-fourths of respondents (78%) believed that is very important for SOT to be active on matters of science policy.**

Details on specific aspects of the survey will be presented in subsequent issues of the *Communiqué.*

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights from the November Council Meeting:

1. It was the consensus of Council that SOT should continue to host Continuing Concepts in Toxicology (CCT) meetings.
2. Council approved the Risk Assessment Task Force's lay summary, "Risk Assessment: What's It All About?"
3. Council approved San Diego as the site for the 2006 Annual Meeting.
4. Council voted to schedule a town meeting on Wednesday, March 22 at the Annual Meeting to discuss the results of the SOT Membership Survey and other topics.
5. Council approved the Board of Publications reappointment of **Dr. Curtis D. Klaassen** as the Editor of *Toxicological Sciences* for a three-year term, that began on January 1, 2000.
6. Council approved the recommendation by the BOP to allocate funds for the publication of three, double-issues of *Toxicological Sciences* to handle a backlog of manuscripts.
7. Council approved the Membership Committee's recommendation that only one letter from a full SOT member be required for sponsoring a student application and that members of Council or the Membership Committee are no longer restricted from sponsoring student membership applications.
8. Council approved the presentation of an honorary membership to **Dr. Findlay Russell**.
9. Council approved a ballot to change the By-Laws to reflect the increased number of Regional Chapters and Specialty Sections in the nomination of candidates for the Nominating Committee.
10. Council voted that the information accompanying future ballots for election of office will include a statement for the candidate of Vice President-elect indicating his/her vision for the future of the Society of Toxicology.

Workshop: Human Tissue Models in Risk Assessment

Continued from page 20

Albert P. Li, Ph.D., *In Vitro* Technologies, Inc., Baltimore, MD, **Roger Ulrich, Ph.D.**, Abbott Labs, Abbott Park, IL, **Roger Curren, Ph.D.**, Institute for *In Vitro* Sciences, Gaithersburg, MD, and **Alison Vickers, Ph.D.**, Novartis Institute for Biomedical Research. Organizers from the RATF were **Jim MacGregor**, **Jack Dean**, and **Lewis Smith**.

Attendance by experienced investigators was facilitated by scheduling of this Workshop to immediately follow the Annual Symposium of the Hepatocyte Users Group of North America (HUGNA), organized by **Drs. Greg Kedderis** and **Al Li** (both SOT members) at the same site.

A summary of the Workshop, including consensus recommendations for the use of human tissue models to improve the scientific basis of risk assessment, will appear in a future issue of *Toxicological Sciences*.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

- **Society of Toxicology 39th Annual Meeting,** March 19-23, 2000, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA. Contact: SOT Headquarters, 1767 Business Center Drive, Suite 302, Reston, VA 20190-5332; Tel: (703) 438-3115; Fax: (703) 438-3113; E-mail: patricia@toxicology.org; Web site: http://www.toxicology.org.

- **British Toxicology Society Scientific Meeting Annual Congress,** March 26-27, 2000, University of New York, New York, NY. Contact: Dr. TJB Gray, Meetings Secretary, Sanofi-Synthelabo, Willowburn Avenue, Alnwick, Northumberland NE662JH, England; Tel: 01665 607370; Fax: 01665 607510.

- **31st Annual Meeting of the Environmental Mutagen Society (EMS),** April 9-11, 2000, Hyatt Regency-Superdome, New Orleans, Louisiana. Contact: EMS National Office; Tel: (703) 437-4377; Fax: (703) 435-4390; E-mail: emsdmg@aol.com.

- **Contemporary Concepts in Toxicology: Mechanisms of Nephrotoxicity,** April 15–18, 2000, Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, MA. Contact: Michelle Gardiner (512) 237-9525 or E-mail:mgardiner@sprd1.mdacc.tmc.edu. Web site: http://www.toxicology.org/AM-workshops/meet2.html.

- **Mid-America Toxicology Course,** April 30-May 5, 2000, Kansas City, Missouri. Contact: Curtis D. Klaassen, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology & Toxicology, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS 66160-7417; Tel: (913) 588-7714 or Fax: (913) 588-7501; E-mail: cklaasse@kumc.edu.

- **Neurobehavioral Teratology Society, 24th Annual NBTS Meeting,** June 24-29, 2000, Breakers Hotel, Palm Beach, Florida. Contact: Karen Acuff-Smith, Ph.D., The Procter and Gamble Company, SWTC, C1N39 Reed Hartman Highway, Cincinnati, OH 45241; E-mail: smith.kd@pg.com.

- **Telepathology and Digital Imaging Symposium,** June 25, 2000, Phoenix, AZ. Sponsored by the Registry of Toxicologic Pathology for Animals (RTPA) and the AFIP Department of Telemedicine in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicologic Pathologists (STP). Contact: Michele Richman, RTPA, AFIP, Bldg 54, Room G117, 14th Street and Alaska Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20306-6000; Tel: (202) 782-2444; Fax: (202) 782-9150, E-mail: Richman@afip.osd.mil.

- **13th International Symposium on Microsomes and Drug Oxidations,** July 10-14, 2000, Stresa, Lago Maggiore, Italy. Contact: Prof. Francesco De Matteis, Pharmacology, Via P. Giuria 13, University, Torino, Italy. Tel: (39) 011 670-7792; Fax: (39) 011 670 7788; E-mail: fdem@medfarm.Unito.it or Dr. Di Paolo c/o M.A.F. Servizi, Torino, Italy. Tel: (39) 011-505900; Fax: (39) 011 505976; E-mail: mdipaolo@mafservizi.it.

- **International Conference on Heavy Metals in the Environment,** August 6-10, 2000, Michigan League, University of Michigan, 911 North University, Ann Arbor, MI. Contact: Heavy Metals Conference, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, University of Michigan, 109 Observatory Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2-29; Tel: (734) 615-2596; Fax: (734) 764-9424; E-mail: heavy.metals@umich.edu.

- **EUROTOX 2000,** September 17-20, 2000, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, London, United Kingdom. Contact: EUROTOX 2000 Secretariat, Congress House, 65 West Drive, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 7NB, United Kingdom; Tel: +44(0)181 661 0877; Fax: +44(0)181 661 9036; E-mail: info@conforg.com.

- **RASS VIII, IUTOX (International Union of Toxicology),** September 30–October 8, 2000, Pueblo Acantilado, Alicante, Spain. Contact: Birgitta Lewander, Malmfors Consulting AB, Vastmannagatan 48, S-113 25 Stockholm, Sweden; Tel: +46 8 31 19 90; Fax: +46 8 30 11 33; E-mail: malmfors.consulting@ebox.tninet.se; Web site: http://www.global-rass.org.

- **Third Asian Conference on Food Safety and Nutrition,** October 3-6, 2000, Beijing, China. Sponsored by: International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI), ILSI Focal Point in China, Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine and in cooperation with ILSI branches in Australasia, India, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, and Thailand, and other regional and international organizations. Contact: International Life Sciences Institute, 1126 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036-4810; Tel: (202) 659-0074; Fax: (202) 659-3859; E-mail: ilsi@ilsi.org.

- **Second NSF International Conference on Food Safety: Preventing Foodborne Illness Through Science and Education,** October 11-13, 2000, Hyatt Regency Savannah in Savannah, GA. Call for Papers due: March 10, 2000. Contact: Christopher Grace, Tel: (734) 827-6865; Fax: (734) 827-6840; E-mail: grace@nsf.org.

- **9th International Congress of Toxicology,** July 8-13, 2001, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Queensland, Australia. Hosted by Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists. Contact Intermedia Convention and Event Management, P.O. Box 1280, Milton, QLD 4064, Australia; Tel: +61 (0) 7 3369 0477; Fax: +61 (0) 7 3369 1512; E-mail: ictix2001@im.com.au; Web site: http://www.uq.edu.au/ICT9.

MEDIA OF INTEREST

- *Environmental Fate and Degradation Handbook,* by Donald Mackay and Wan Ying Shiu, Dept. of Chemical Engineering and Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Toronto, Ontario and Kuo-Ching Ma, Environmental Researcher, Toronto, Ontario. Contact: CRCnetBASE, 2000 N.W. Corporate Blvd., Boca Raton, FL 33431-9868; Tel: (800) 272-7737; Tel: (561) 994-0555 (outside continental U.S.); Fax: (800) 374-3401; Web site: http:/www.crcpress.com.

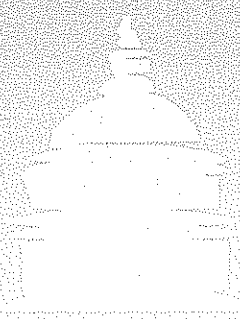
- *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics,* Editor-in-Chief David R. Lide. Contact: Chapman and Hall/CRCnetBASE, 2000 N.W. Corporate Blvd., Boca Raton, FL 33431-9868; Web site: http:/www.crcpress.com.

- *Human Toxicology Handbook,* edited by Edward J. Massero, Senior Research Scientist. Contact: Chapman and Hall/CRCnetBASE, 2000 N.W. Corporate Blvd., Boca Raton, FL 334331-9868; Tel: (800) 272-7737; Tel: (561) 994-0555 (outside continental US); Fax: (800) 374-3401; Web site: http:/www.crcpress.com.

- *The Keller Letter,* published by John G. Keller, PhD. Monthly analysis of regulatory, legislative and judicial impacts on toxicology and risk assessment. Contact: toxicol@msn.com.

- *New Publications from Current Protocols,* published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Contact: John Wiley & Sons, Inc./Ann P. Spillane, 9th Floor, 605 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10158-0012; Tel: (800) 825-7550 or (212) 850-6347; Fax: (212) 850-6021, Attn: P. Spillane (USA); E-mail: protocol@wiley.com.

SOT Co-Sponsors Congressional Lunch Briefing



In conjunction with the American Chemical Society, the Society of Toxicology has sponsored its first Congressional lunch briefing, "The Future of Biotechnology: Science and Policy Issues," **12 NOON to 1:30 PM, March 1, 2000,** in the Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

Food biotechnology is the genetic engineering of conventional agricultural crops to produce crops with enhanced characteristics. Although this technology holds much promise for farmers and consumers worldwide, significant debate continues within the US and abroad regarding the safety of these products. As evidenced by the recent furor over these products within the European Union, the environmental community, the recent World Trade Organization meetings, as well as heightened congressional scrutiny and involvement in this area, the proper regulation of biotechnology remains largely unsettled.

This briefing highlighted the current regulatory framework in place for agricultural products derived from biotechnology, and explored the role of scientific information in guiding safety decisions.

SOT's newest Congressional Fellow, **H.B. "Skip" Matthews** kicked off the event. Other participants included **Congressman Ewing,** of the US House of Agriculture/Science Committees; **Marilyn Bruno,** US State Department, **J. Maryanski,** Biotechnology Coordinator, US FDA; **James Gibson,** Global Director, Dow AgroSciences; **Rebecca Goldburg,** Environmental Defense Fund; and **C.S. Prakash,** Director, Tuskegee University.

A Peer Review Center of Excellence for Toxicity Evaluations: Developing and Testing the Concept

The International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) Risk Science Institute (RSI) is beginning a new activity to develop and test the concept of an independent peer review center of excellence that convenes expert panels to review and evaluate toxicity data and assessments. A model peer review center will be set up at RSI to serve as a resource for organizations (industry, government, others) that need to have a high-level peer review of toxicity assessments conducted. The peer review center will organize and convene panels of nationally recognized experts to perform the reviews, and the results will be publicly available. SOT members and others interested in participating in the expert panels are invited to **contact RSI for further information at peer_review@ilsi.org.**

A Project Committee of 15 senior scientists from government, industry, academia, and other interested groups will play an important role in designing the peer review center and, later, in assessing the results. The Project Committee will provide input to RSI on how the peer review center might best be structured and operated, and after the center has been in existence for 1½–2 years, an expanded Committee will evaluate the effectiveness and utility of the model peer review center and will make recommendations on the scope, structure and function of future peer review centers of excellence, should they be needed.

The project is being conducted under a cooperative agreement with the US Environmental Protection Agency Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response and will focus on toxicity data and assessments on chemicals of particular interest at Superfund hazardous waste sites. Peer reviews will be funded by the sponsors requesting the reviews. The Project Committee begins its work in March, 2000, and the model peer review center will initiate its program in the summer.

In Memorium

Louis Levy
William E. McCormick
Carl P. Schulz
Carlo Tamburro
John A. Tornaben