

# Communiqué

Winter 2001

## Have You Registered for the Annual Meeting Yet?



The Advanced Registration deadline is just around the corner – **January 29, 2001**. Plan to be a part of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of SOT at the largest toxicology meeting and exhibition in the world. The scientific sessions, continuing education courses, and exhibits will attract more than 5,000 scientists from industry, academia, and government. Click on the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting option on the home page of the SOT Web site, or visit the *Communiqué On-Line* for a synopsis of the events.

## Request for Proposals for the 2002 Annual Meeting

With the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting just around the corner, it is time to begin planning for the 2002 Annual Meeting. Two groups, the Program Committee and the Continuing Education Committee, invite your proposals for SOT's gathering in Nashville.

Any member, committee, Specialty Section, or Chapter of SOT may submit proposals on timely topics for scientific meetings. CE courses are intended as forums for established concepts (albeit potential cutting-edge science), while scientific sessions are more appropriate for presentation of the latest research results.

Proposals for the SOT Annual Meeting Forms are available on the Web site or from the Headquarters Office.

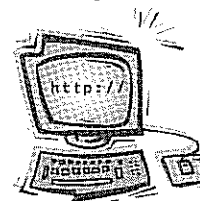
All session and course proposals must be submitted by April 15, 2001.

## A New Look

Submitted by  
Ken Wallace, Editor

The *Communiqué* has served the Society of Toxicology well as a means of communicating activities of the Society and developments in the field of toxicology to its members.

However, the pace of information growth has begun to outstrip our ability to deliver all of the relevant news to members in a timely and efficient fashion. For example, the *Communiqué* has grown to five issues of 16–20 pages each, at an annual cost to the Society of over \$80,000. Given these numbers, we thought that it was time to reassess the effectiveness of the *Communiqué* as a conduit for information of interest to the members. Ultimately, we decided to rework the format of the *Communiqué* to take better advantage of the vast internet resources that have been developed for the Society. Beginning with this issue, you will notice a sleeker *Communiqué*, packed with information in a much more condensed format. Several articles are highlighted in the print version of the *Communiqué* with references to the full text version available on the SOT Web site. The full table of contents for the most



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## VARIATIONS ON A COMMON THEME



**Daniel Acosta, Jr., Ph.D.**  
2000-2001 President of the  
Society of Toxicology

### New Long-Range Plan Core Purpose

In January 2000, the SOT Council met to review and update the SOT Long-Range Plan. In July, Specialty Sections and Committee comments were incorporated. Now, Council would like to get your input on the newly developed plan. The Society of Toxicology's newly stated core purpose is "to enhance human, animal, and environmental health through the science of toxicology." The complete LRP, including goals and strategic objectives can be found on the Web site at [www.toxicology.org](http://www.toxicology.org). The SOT Council asks that you read the plan and provide us with your feedback.

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During my year as president of the Society of Toxicology, I am focusing on those strengths that make SOT the dynamic and state-of-the-art organization that it is, namely the diversity and quality of its members. One area of the membership that does not receive as much attention as it should is our international contingent. In our latest membership directory I counted almost 550 active international members in SOT and approximately 340 international employers. During the past two years, I have been able to visit several countries in an effort to learn more about our international members and at times to speak to individuals who are not familiar with SOT. Two of those countries are Mexico and Peru.

Two recently admitted members to SOT, **Lourdes Garza-Ocañas** and **Oscar Torres-Alanis**, are members of the faculty at the Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon in Monterrey, Mexico. They teach in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the School of Medicine. This past fall, they asked me to participate in the XVII Congreso Nacional de Investigacion Biomedica, where I spoke on "An *In Vitro* Approach to the Study of Target Organ Toxicity of Xenobiotics." A member of our current Council, **Ken Ramos**, was also an invited speaker and talked about "Regulation of Mammalian Gene Expression via the Antioxidant/Electrophile Response." Ken and I met many dedicated toxicologists who are very interested in promoting good science and the value of toxicology to the citizens and government of Mexico. After this meeting, I offered Dr. Garza-Ocañas a position on the Animals in Research Committee, which she unselfishly accepted, even though at times she will have to travel long distances to make the scheduled meetings of the committee. I believe that Dr. Garza-Ocañas brings an international perspective to the use of animals in research and SOT looks forward to her participation on this committee.

This past December, I had the opportunity to speak before the Peruvian Association of Pharmacists about the development of a pharmacy curriculum at the University of Cincinnati, which is based on a foundation of such basic pharmaceutical sciences as chemistry, physiology, pharmacokinetics, pharmacology, and toxicology. At the School of Pharmacy at the Academia Peruana de Farmacia in Lima, Peru, I met several clinical toxicologists who provide in-depth toxicological information on accidental and unintentional exposure to a variety of toxic chemicals. I was impressed with some of the Master's students and theses that were associated with this program. Indeed, the program makes extensive use of computer technology and the world wide web to gather toxicological data and information about chemical exposures. Unfortunately, their library is rather limited. I was able to send the school some of my older texts in biochemistry, pharmacology, and toxicology as general references for the students and staff. I encourage you to send any texts or books that you may have to:

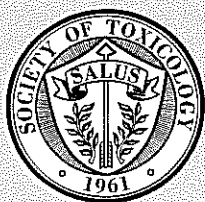
Dr. Fernando Quevedo Ganoza  
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Jr. Puno 1002, Jardin Botanico  
Ap. Postal 1760  
Lima 1, Peru

This past spring, I had the opportunity to visit some industrial toxicologists at Sankyo Company in Tokyo, Japan and some pharmacy and toxicology faculty at Gifu Pharmaceutical University. I was an invited speaker for the annual meeting of the Japanese Pharmaceutical Association where I spoke on recent advances in *in vitro* toxicology. I learned much about the role of toxicology in Japanese industrial and academic settings. I observed a favorable interaction and exchange of information between industrial and academic toxicologists throughout the meeting.

In my most recent trip in mid-September, I was able to attend the annual meeting of EUROTOX in London. There, I met with the EUROTOX Executive Committee, which has representatives from all the major countries in Europe. I am indebted to **Ernie Harpur**, the current president, and **Alan Boobis**, the incoming president, for their hospitality during my visit. I was very impressed with the several symposia, posters, and platform presentations that I heard. In discussions with such eminent toxicologists as **Iain Purchase** and **Lewis Smith**, I gained a better appreciation of the progress that the discipline of toxicology is making within Europe, especially in the countries associated with the former Soviet block. There is a dedicated effort by EUROTOX to develop educational programs to help toxicologists within these countries cope more effectively with environmental and toxicological issues.

By providing this brief summary of my international visits, I hope to highlight another strength of our SOT membership; our colleagues in countries outside of the United States. It is no mistake that the Society of Toxicology is not named the American Society of Toxicology; the founding fathers of SOT intended that SOT be open to all toxicologists throughout the world. Thus, a primary theme of my presidency is to continue to stress the idea that the first and foremost responsibility of SOT is to promote the educational, scientific, and professional development of all of its members here in the U.S. and throughout the world. Please continue to work with me and the Council to make SOT a truly international organization.

*Daniel Acosta*  
Daniel Acosta, Jr., Ph.D.  
2000-2001 President



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

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**Newsletter Editor:**  
Kendall B. Wallace, Ph.D.

**Deadlines for Upcoming Issues:**  
April 3, 2001 (Spring Issue)  
June 2, 2001 (Summer Issue)  
August 3, 2001 (Fall Issue)

## From the New Editor of *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology*

Submitted by  
Michael P. Waalkes, Editor, *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology*

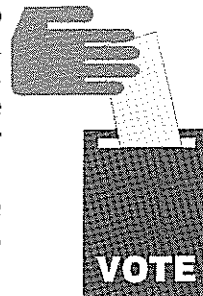
As you know, the Society of Toxicology (SOT) has two official journals designed to serve SOT members. One of them, *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology* (TAAP) focuses on studies that help reveal toxicological mechanisms. This fall, Ed Bresnick and I began the transition to me as editor of TAAP, which should be complete by early next year. During my tenure as editor, I hope to make the journal as attractive as possible to the SOT membership. TAAP will have several new features including timely and succinct *Reviews in Mechanistic Toxicology*, a series of Seminal Papers in Toxicology, in which an author will review a paper in toxicology that is five or more years old and contributed profoundly to our understanding of toxic mechanisms and/or significantly affected human health issues, and a series of *Invited Editorials*. If you would like to contribute to any of these special features please contact me at the new editorial office as follows:

*Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology*  
Editorial Office  
5801 Rock Canyon Road  
Raleigh, NC 27613

## Upcoming Election of Year 2001 SOT Officers

Ballots for the election of Council Officers and elected standing committees will be sent to members by **January 1, 2001**. Offices to be filled include the Vice President-elect, Secretary-elect, two Councilors, two members each to the Membership and Education Committees, and four members to the Nominating Committee.

Please **return your ballot** to the SOT Executive Director on or before **February 1, 2001**. The results of the election will be announced at the 2001 Annual Meeting in San Francisco.



## Student Activities

Many graduate and undergraduate students are planning to attend the SOT Annual Meeting, and to celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Please don't forget to register for the Student/Post-Doctoral events offered by the SOT and listed under "Student Functions" on the registration form.

- Student/Post-Doctoral Reception on Sunday, March 25, 7:30-9:00 p.m.
- *In Vitro* Breakfast on Wednesday, March 28, 7:00-7:45 a.m.

These events recognize the importance of students within the Society, and give all students an opportunity to exchange ideas and communicate with peers from other research facilities. These will be enriching and enjoyable experiences for all of us.

In addition, it is important that all students plan now to attend the SOT Council Meeting with Graduate Student/Post-Doctoral Fellows on Wednesday, March 28, at 4:30 p.m. (no registration required). The meeting provides an opportunity for all students to bring their suggestions and student-related issues directly to the SOT Council.

*For more information, or to contact the Student Advisory Committee, see the Student Section of the SOT Web site.*

## The Exhibit Hall

One of the most important features of the Annual Meeting is the Exhibit Hall. It provides attendees with the opportunity to learn more about cutting-edge technologies and new services, while providing company representatives the chance to meet with new and established clients. Valuable business and networking opportunities are available and make the Exhibit Hall an important focal point of the Annual Meeting. In addition, exhibitors also provide revenue to support the Annual Meeting. We asked one of the exhibitors to write a few words explaining, from the exhibitor's perspective, how attendees can get the most out of visiting the Exhibit Hall. Please see the article, "An Exhibitor's Perspective" in *Communiqué On-Line*.

## Code of Ethics Reminder

The Society of Toxicology is dedicated to developing knowledge for the improvement of the health and safety of living beings and the protection of their environment.

In attaining this objective, each member is expected to maintain high ethical standards, and to this purpose, the SOT Code of Ethics, which requires a personal commitment from members, is printed annually in the *SOT Membership Directory*.

## News from Women In Toxicology

Women in Toxicology(WIT) is demonstrating, once again, its energy within SOT. Two events at the Annual Meeting are of particular interest to group members and to the wider membership. Take a look at these important happenings in "News from WIT" in the *Communiqué On-Line*.

## Undergraduate Toxicology Education Initiative

Do you teach an undergraduate course in toxicology, or know someone who does? The Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter of the Society of Toxicology is preparing a survey and is organizing a meeting in San Francisco. Please contact **Dr. Tom Simmons** through email at: [tsimmons@grove.iup.edu](mailto:tsimmons@grove.iup.edu).

September 1, 1999 - October 18, 2000

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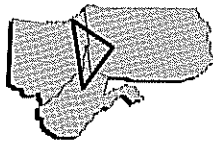
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## REGIONAL CHAPTER NEWS

### ALLEGHENY-ERIE REGIONAL CHAPTER

#### Updated Officer List:

**William E. Brown**, President  
**Thomas Simmons**, President-elect  
**Michael Miller**, Vice President  
**Maryranne F. Stock**, Secretary/Treasurer  
**Robin Gandley, Robin Ruppel-Kerr, Anna Shvedova**, Councilors  
**A. Philip Leber**, Past President



### OHIO VALLEY CHAPTER

The Ohio Valley Chapter of the SOT (OVSOT) held its Annual Meeting on Friday, October 13, 2000 at the EPA in Cincinnati, Ohio. Please see the complete article in *Communiqué On-Line* to learn the details of this important program as well as the listing of newly elected officers.



## Using Biomarkers in Human Health Risk Assessment

A Workshop to Identify Research Priorities

*Submitted by Katherine Craig*

As part of its Long-Range Research Initiative, the American Chemistry Council's Risk Assessment Methods Technical Implementation Panel, with the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and Society of Toxicology hosted a multi-stakeholder workshop entitled, "Using Biomarkers in Human Health Risk Assessment: A Workshop to Identify Research Priorities" on June 21 and 22, in Cary, North Carolina. Three working groups developed a total of six exciting RFP ideas for research in the field.

For a complete discussion of this workshop and its important results, please see the *Communiqué On-Line*.

## Recent Changes to Protect SOT's Financial Status

The Council of the Society of Toxicology met in Baltimore on September 26 and 27, and approved two financial changes recommended by SOT's auditors and the Finance Committee to protect SOT's assets.

One change had to do with the administration of Regional Chapter finances. While Regional Chapters have long handled their own finances, they use SOT's tax-exempt status and their finances are reported annually as part of SOT's federal tax filing. SOT's auditors advised that the Society's 501(c)3 non-profit status could be jeopardized through unintentional, but inappropriate financial management or reporting at the Regional Chapter level. Thus, **President Dan Acosta** wrote to the Regional Officers advising them of the need to handle their finances through SOT Headquarters as is done by the Specialty Sections.

The second change arises from an urgent need to balance the SOT budget. This reflects a loss in the market value of SOT's investments due to the current economy

*Continued on page 7*

## Bioinformatics Course Available on SOT Web Site!

The SOT Continuing Education (CE) Committee is providing, On-Line and free of charge, the 1999 CE sunrise mini-course; "Basic Bioinformatics: From Sequence Analysis to Genome Analysis" taught by **William Mattes** of Pharmacia. Those taking the course are asked to complete a survey to assist the committee with future plans. Find the course on the SOT Web site at [www.toxicology.org](http://www.toxicology.org) and follow the links to the Education section.

## A New Look

*Continued from front cover*

recent issue of the *Communiqué* appears with a single click from a link on the SOT home page, or members can scroll through the entire issue on-line. A few key advantages of the electronic version are the ability to include full color, still, and video images and to add links to other related web sites for the interested reader. With these changes, we hope not only to reduce costs for the Society, but more importantly to enhance the informative value of the *Communiqué*. We hope that you enjoy the richness of the new format.

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## Highlights from the September Council Meeting

**1** Three By-laws changes will be presented to the Membership for ballot vote. Summaries of the proposed By-law changes are listed below.

1. In the event that any officer elected under the provisions of Article First shall become unable to perform the normal duties of his/her office, the Council may by majority vote designate another voting member until the next regular or special election is held.
2. In the event that any committee member elected under the provision of Article Fourth shall become unable to perform the normal duties of his/her office, the Council may by majority vote designate another voting member until the next regular or special election is held.
3. The Awards Committee will become an elected committee.

*Note: If the By-laws motion to convert the Awards Committee to an elected committee is approved by the membership, then the prohibition of Councilors being nominated for SOT sponsored awards will be repealed.*

- 2** Dr. Harry Salem received unanimous approval as the 2001 SOT Congressional Science Fellow.
- 3** Council reviewed the findings from the 1999-2000 audit and made revisions to the 2000-2001 budget.

Council has asked the committees to review their budgets and reduce their expenses by 10% for non-Annual Meeting related activities. Councilors have been asked to review non-committee long-range expenditures and make additional recommendations about expenses that could be reduced. These requests are in response to the auditors' advice that SOT not continue to have a deficit budget.

**4** Based on legal counsel advice, Council approved a motion to have SOT Headquarters manage the accounting needs of the Regional Chapters.

**5** Specialty Section dues for associate, full and retired members will increase from \$15 to \$25 annually. The increase in dues will cover the rising expenses associated with the Specialty Sections' receptions/meetings held during the Annual Meeting. Specialty Sections will be relieved of the financial obligation for sponsoring non-member speakers for the Annual Meeting and the Program Committee will take on this responsibility.

**6** Council approved the Finance Committee's recommendation that the membership subscription to *ToxSci* remain at \$50 annually for an electronic version of *ToxSci* and will increase to \$70 annually for members requesting both hard and electronic copies.

## Recent Financial Changes

*Continued from page 6*

and the level of the current budgeted expenses.

In order to comply with the Society's financial policies that specify 75% of budgeted expenses must be held in investment reserves, President Acosta has notified the SOT Committee chairs that each group will need to reduce overall spending by 10%. Expenses for the Annual Meeting were specifically exempted from this requirement. Committees have also been asked to recommend areas for further cuts (i.e. where less effective programs may be phased out) or for increasing revenue.

In both cases, President Acosta emphasized that the Society of Toxicology is still in a strong administrative and financial position. He anticipates that the adjustments will enable the Society to "remain strong and continue to make significant contributions to the science of toxicology."

## SPECIALTY SECTION NEWS

### Dermal Toxicology

SOT's new Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section (DTSS) is providing a useful forum for addressing a key area of toxicology. This section is devoted to developing quantitative, mechanistic models to reduce uncertainty in cutaneous risk assessment. Members of SOT are encouraged to make note of DTSS initiatives and support this significant new endeavor. Please see a full article about the work of the Specialty Section in *Communique On-Line*.

### Occupational Health

The Occupational Health Specialty Section (OHSS) has announced new plans for its annual awards presentations-beginning with this annual meeting, OHSS will add a prize for pre-doctoral students to its annual competition. Please see *Communique On-Line* for the full story.

## PLACEMENT SERVICES

### COORDINATOR: ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICOLOGY

Research Assoc./Full Professor, Environmental Toxicology Research Program. Coordinator will manage the state-supported research program, generate extramurally-funded research, and promote and coordinate the activities of the faculty, staff, and students. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in toxicology or a related field, postdoctoral experience, and a minimum of 5 years of professional experience. Letter of application, statement of research interests and administrative philosophy, vitae, and three references should be sent to: Administrative Manager, School of Pharmacy, Thad Cochran NCNPR, Room 1026, The University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677.

Evaluations begin **December 1, 2000.**

EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA employer  
([www.olemiss.edu/depts/pharmacology](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/pharmacology))

### DRUG DISCOVERY TOXICOLOGIST

Plumb position. Cutting edge. West Coast. Biotech division. Prestigious international pharma. Function at high level. Expand skills. Grow. Not stuck in lab. Protein-based therapeutics. Support research, preclinical development. Safety and efficacy research and assessment. Synthesize data from contract labs. Compile, assess, organize data for regulatory reports. Work with internal teams and external groups. Proof of concept, efficacy, mechanism of action investigations. QUALIFICATIONS: Two years-plus drug development industry experience. GLP experience. Strong grasp of basics. Excellent communication, data analysis skills. IND experience a plus. Ph.D. or MS. APPLY: Code: ARCTOXSOT. Email attached word document CV to: [mary@mriemery.com](mailto:mary@mriemery.com).

### TENURE TRACK ASSISTANT PROFESSOR: MOLECULAR TOXICOLOGY

The Department of Environmental and Molecular Toxicology at North Carolina State University invites applications for an Assistant Professor position in the area of molecular and cellular toxicology. Research areas of special interest include: genetic susceptibility to environmental agents, cell signaling and carcinogenesis, oxidative stress and regulation of the expression of and polymorphisms in biotransformation enzymes, although all mechanistic toxicology research areas will be considered. Applicants must have a Ph.D. and postdoctoral research experience. The successful candidate will develop and maintain a strong independent and extramurally funded research program and contribute to graduate student education/training. The department will be moving into a new state-of-the-art facility in March 2001. Review of applications will begin on January 15, 2001. Applicants should submit curriculum vitae, statement of research goals and teaching philosophy, and names and addresses of three references to: Robert C. Smart, Ph.D., Department of Environmental and Molecular Toxicology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7633 (see [www.cals.ncsu.edu/toxicology/index.htm](http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/toxicology/index.htm) for details). NC State is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employer.

## MEMBER NEWS

**Loren D. Koller, D.V.M., Ph.D.**, of Oregon State University, was elected to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC). AAALAC International accredits more than 600 laboratory animal facilities in ten different countries. He is a member of SOT's Animals in Research Committee.

## New Faces at SOT Headquarters

**Michael R. McCoy, Ph.D.** joins the staff as Director of Public Affairs. He will work on the *Communiqué* and be staff liaison to several committees including the Committee on Public Communications, the Membership Committee, the Regulatory Affairs and Legislative Assistance Committee, and the World Wide Web Task Force. Dr. McCoy is a former college professor and broadcast journalist, with experience as CEO of a non-profit corporation. He will also be responsible for the Society's Public Relations and Governmental Affairs efforts.

Other new staff members include **DeeDee Newman**, staff accountant; **Cletisha Vines**, Program Assistant and **Trevor Thompson**, Graphic Designer and Web Developer. For more information about them, please see the full version of this story in the *Communiqué On-Line*.

## In Memoriam

**David B. Clayson, Ph.D.**

**James H. Vickers, D.V.M.**

## Upcoming Conferences

Visit the Society's Web site for up-to-date Meetings and Conference information!

<http://www.toxicology.org/AM-Workshops/Conferences.html>