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 March 13-17  
 New Orleans, Louisiana

ONLINE



# Communiqué

*Special Issue 2005*

## News in This Issue

President's Message

Dear Fellow SOT-ers,

Our 2005 Annual Meeting is almost upon us. New Orleans is a wonderful location, with something for everyone. Symposia, workshops, roundtables, platform session, poster sessions, specialty section meetings, regional chapter meetings, reunions, social events, —you name it, we've got it! Of course, our science is "numero uno." We have approximately 200 more abstracts than we had last year, our previous record. In fact, we have 1962 abstracts from the US, and 501 are international. This means that we should also have more scientists, from all over the world, participating. Our exhibit floor also continues to grow. Libby Jones, our wonderful exhibit manager, just let me know that we have our first Chinese exhibitor. We also have exhibits from Germany, India, Japan, Brazil, France, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Norway, Korea, Canada, Spain, Italy, Ireland, Russia, and Denmark—and she is working on an exhibitor from Africa. We are working on increasing our international outreach in other ways as well. We now have over 600 international members, over 10% of our total membership. For several years we have been offering travel awards for scientist from developing countries that are funded by AstraZeneca through IUTOX. This year, we have decided to extend this opportunity to five additional "developing" toxicologists, funded by SOT.

We are also working hard to develop more SOT activities outside of the annual meeting. We have held several extremely successful "Current Concepts in Toxicology (CCT)" meetings within the past few years. The most recent was held in Germany and dealt with renal toxicity (see the "[Toxicologists and Toxicologic-Pathologists at Lake Constance, Germany](#)" article). Two more are soon to be held (or depending on when you receive this newsletter, may already have been held). The first will be on Mixtures, to be held in Atlanta, February 16-17. This involves multiple stakeholders and supporters, and promises to be truly a state-of-the-science discussion of current thinking on this crucial topic. The second, potentially targeted for Summer and organized by the Risk Assessment Specialty Section, will focus on probabilistic risk assessment. Stay tuned for the dates and more information.

We have specialty sections and regional chapters, and we are now looking at other groups, whose focus may be more networking than disciplinary or geographic (see article titled "[Special Interest groups Being Formed within SOT Meeting at the 2005 SOT Annual Meeting](#)"). We have formed a task force to address this issue and hope to have some creative ideas in the near future. We have also formed a small group to look at the definition of toxicology (see the "[How Do You Define Toxicology?](#)" article) and, we are working on developing a basic tutorial in toxicology.

I certainly hope and pray that everyone had a wonderful holiday season and wish everyone a year of peace, health, and happiness.

**Linda Birnbaum, Ph.D.***2004–2005 SOT President*

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## SOT Response to NIH Notice on “Enhanced Open Access”

In November, SOT sent a letter to NIH in response to their open access proposal. NIH had recommended that manuscripts from research resulting from NIH funding could be sent to appropriate scientific journals for publication, but they must also be sent to PubMed Central, where they would be published on the site after 6–months. SOT disagreed with two central issues in the NIH proposal. First, SOT believes a 12–month rather than the proposed 6–month waiting period before open access occurs is required so that the journal subscription model remains viable, without which SOT believes authors will be charged large submission fees. Second, SOT feels NIH should allow articles to be posted in any of a number of research repositories, which are already servicing scientific publications, rather than exclusively in PubMed Central. The full text of the SOT letter, which was drafted by the Board of Publications (BOP) and approved by the SOT Council, can be found on the SOT Web site. (Postscript: NIH Public Access Policy Issued February 3, 2005. Full details at <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-05-022.html>)

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## 2005–2006 Councilor and Committee Members Elected

The results of the Society of Toxicology 2005–2006 election are as follows:

Vice President-elect:

**George B. Corcoran**

Secretary-elect:

**Janice E. Chambers**

Councilors:

**Bruce A. Fowler** and  
**Michael P. Holsapple**

Awards Committee:

**Patricia E. Ganey** and  
**Martin A. Philbert**

Education Committee:

**Susan J. Borghoff** and  
**Lawrence R. Curtis**

Membership Committee:

**Michael L. Cunningham** and  
**David Dorman**

Nominating Committee:

**Marc W. Fariss**  
(from Regional Chapters)**Bruce McCullough**

(from Specialty Sections)

**David L. Eaton**

(from Past Presidents)

**Harold Zenick**

(from Member-At-Large)

SOT congratulates the new Councilors and elected committee members.

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## SOT Council Establishes a Conflict of Interest Policy

SOT Council has established a conflict of interest policy for SOT officers. In the spirit of increasing openness and transparency, SOT Council has modeled their new policy upon the National Academy of Science’s Conflict of Interest policies. Council’s policy reflects their commitment to avoid actual as well as perceived conflicts of interest. Interested members can view the new [SOT policy](#).

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### SOT Approves Policy for Manuscripts Resulting from Research on Humans

The Society of Toxicology has a history of ethics policies and positions dating back several decades. The Society adopted the [SOT Code of Ethics](#) on January 31, 1985. Adherence to the code is a condition of membership in the Society, assuring that each member is personally committed to a high standard of ethics. The SOT has been aggressively involved in issues that relate to the ethical use of laboratory animals in research. The Animals in Research Committee was formed in 1982 as a standing committee of the Society. The Committee focuses on the effective and humane use of animals in research, as well as the development of valid alternatives to animal testing.

SOT has also posted several [position statements](#) on its Web site. "Use of Animals in Toxicology" was added to the Web site in January, 1986. Two additional statements were posted in March, 1999: "Animals in Research Public Policy Statement" and "Guiding Principles in the Use of Animals in Toxicology."

Until this year, there has been no specific policy of the Society on the ethics of research conducted on human subjects. It is timely for the Society to now have positions on the ethical considerations for members who conduct research involving humans, and to have a policy for publication of reports of research which use human subjects. Such policies have now been developed and approved by the Council and Board of Publications of the Society.

Following is the *Toxicological Sciences* Policy:

*Manuscripts dealing with human subjects. Toxicological Sciences will consider manuscripts presenting data obtained from research involving human subjects (<http://www.cdc.gov/OD/ads/hsrdocs.htm>). Research on human subjects must be approved by an appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB) and comply with all relevant federal, state and local regulations. For research conducted outside federal regulations, authors must provide documentation that the research was conducted according to the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki (<http://www.wma.net/e/policy/b3.htm>). A statement describing IRB approval, consent procedures and that all human participants gave written informed consent must appear at the beginning of the Methods section; the editor may request to see such documentation. In addition, the authors will be asked to indicate and certify that they have complied with all appropriate government regulations when the manuscript is submitted for review and confirm their understanding that the editor will rely on the contents of same in determining whether to accept the manuscript. No paper will be considered for review and publication without this certification from the authors. If accepted, the published paper will include a footnote designating that the authors certified that the work in human subjects was compliant with all relevant regulations.*

Full details of the policy and its history will appear in a future issue of the journal.

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### SACATM Applications Solicited

Members interested in applying to be on the Science Advisory Committee on Alternative Toxicological Methods (SACATM), a federally chartered advisory committee that advises the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM), should contact Dr. William Stokes ICCVAM Executive Director, NICEATM, NIEHS, P.O. Box 12233, EC-17, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, E-mail: [stokes@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:stokes@niehs.nih.gov), (919) 541-3398, no later than March 1, 2005.

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### Task Forces Help Shape SOT's Future

The current best-practice in association management is to assemble Task Forces to accomplish particular association goals, with a sunset provision post completion. In 2004, a number of SOT Task Forces completed final reports, and several others were constituted with dissolution dates in 2005.

The **Chemical and Biological Terrorism Resource Registry** developed a registry of SOT members with expertise in agents that might be used for chemical and biological terrorism. They tested and refined an experts-retrieval-system and have notified U.S. government agencies of the existence of the service. With the registry in operation, the Task Force was dissolved in 2004.

The **Recruitment and Retention Task Force** was constituted in 2003 and charged with determining what encourages undergraduates to choose toxicology for graduate studies, why they stay or leave toxicology as they go into post-doctoral study and/or employment, and what would encourage scientists to stay in toxicology and SOT. The Task Force provided Council with a rigorous [report](#) and was dissolved in 2004.

The **Liaison Task Force** was constituted in 2004 to propose to the SOT Council a five-year strategic

plan to capitalize on relationships with related groups in order to advance the Society's goals as outlined in the long-range plan. The group focused on liaison relationships for meetings, advocacy, public education, and career development. A full report was provided to SOT Council in late 2004.

In 2004, the **Communications Task Force** was asked to propose to the Society of Toxicology Council a 5-year strategic communications plan that will allow the SOT and its members to be viewed by the general public, other scientific organizations, and legislative bodies as the primary resources for current and reliable information on issues concerning human and environmental health. A report is expected in March 2005.

An **NIH Funding Task Force** was assembled to propose to the Society of Toxicology Council a short and long-term plan for SOT action to re-establish a Center for Scientific Review (CSR) system that allows fair, independent, expert, and timely review of toxicology proposals. Work is ongoing, and SOT members with an interest in this topic are invited to attend the SOT Issues Session at 12:00 Noon on March 9, 2005 (at the SOT Annual Meeting).

Council recently approved a proposal from the **Student Advisory Committee (SAC)** for formation of an SOT Post-Doctoral Task Force. The broad scope of this group will be to identify and meet the needs of post-docs within the Society. All post-docs are invited to participate (contact SOT headquarters if you would like to be a part of this strategic group).

In addition, a **Special Interest Group Task Force** is hard at work (see article "[Special Interest Groups Being Formed within the SOT and Meeting at the 2005 SOT Annual Meeting](#)").

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#### SOT Supports International Educational Efforts

Over the past few years (and continuing today) SOT has worked to increase its support of international educational efforts.

Through the International Union of Toxicology (IUTOX), SOT has provided funding and speakers for CE programs throughout the world. In 2004, IUTOX arranged for courses at the following meetings:

ASIATOX, February 1, 2004, Bangkok Thailand. Speakers included **Meryl Karol**, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; **Bruce Fowler**, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Control (ATSDR), Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia; and **Christopher Schonwelder**, Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

Mexican Society of Toxicology, March 29–April 1, 2004, Guadalajara, Mexico. The lecture was given in Spanish by **Jose Manautou**, University of Connecticut, School of Pharmacy, Storrs, Connecticut.

Society of Toxicology India Silver Jubilee Year, October 29, 2004, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India. A CE course was given by **Nigel Dent**, Director of Country Consultancy Limited, Milton Malsor, Northants, United Kingdom.

In addition, SOT annually donates copies of surplus continuing education course syllabi, which are distributed by SOT and IUTOX to developing countries. Hundreds of syllabi have been distributed in the past years. The SOT journal, *Toxicological Sciences*, is also made available to individuals from developing countries free of charge.

SOT has worked with IUTOX for the past three years to fund travel awards for individuals from developing countries to the SOT (USA) meeting with funding provided by AstraZeneca. In 2005, SOT added funding for five additional travel awards to the funds again being graciously provided by AstraZeneca.

At the 2004 ICT X meeting in Tampere, Finland, SOT hosted an exhibit booth. SOT Council members staffed the booth and distributed coupons for a free-trial of *Toxicological Sciences*, SOT annual meeting and membership materials, and name badge lanyards to hundreds of interested attendees.

SOT hopes to continue to expand its support of international educational efforts in 2005.

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#### ICT XI Call for Proposals

Every three years the International Union of Toxicology (IUTOX) holds an International Congress of Toxicology (ICT). In 2007, the ICT XI will be hosted by the Society of Toxicology of Canada and the

National Research Council of Canada and will be held in Montreal, Canada, July 15–19, 2007. This meeting presents an excellent opportunity for international collaboration, and we hope that you will consider participating.

The theme of the meeting is Toxicology: Discovery Serving Society. The scientific program will be designed to emphasize all areas of toxicology, will feature current exciting developments, and will provide a forum for the free exchange of ideas and information. Proposals of topics for the symposia, workshops and roundtables are now being solicited.

Proposal submission forms and other updated ICT XI meeting details can be found at [www.ict2007.org](http://www.ict2007.org).

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#### Education Committee and Council Meet to Develop SOT Education Strategy

In January, members of the SOT Education Committee and Council met to discuss strategies for SOT to accomplish its educational goals.

Over the past years the Education Committee has very effectively developed new and exciting programs for the Society and then has concentrated on making certain these programs are effectively implemented. This focus on programs has challenged the resources available for new education initiatives and has made committing time to developing long-term educational strategies difficult.

Based upon the recommendation of the Education Committee, Council plans to alter the function of the Education Committee to one that identifies educational needs and opportunities based on the SOT strategic plan. This new Education Committee will develop, nourish, and liaison subcommittee programs for SOT educational needs. With time, these programs may become independent and the Education Committee would primarily provide liaison support.

It is the hope of the Education Committee and Council that this shift will free up the Education Committee to be able to think broadly and futuristically about the educational needs of the Society and to make recommendations to Council about programs to be developed. An important aspect of the new charge to the Educational Committee will include coordination with other committees within SOT with a mission that includes an educational or public outreach component. Subcommittees for program activities now having Education Committee oversight, will become independent.

The strategic charge to the Education Committee will be refined with input from both the Education Committee and Council. Changes will be instituted as soon as reasonably feasible so that the affected committees and subcommittees will assume the new duties in the 2005–2006 volunteer year.

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#### SOT Sponsors Contemporary Concepts in Toxicology (CCT) Meetings and Non-SOT Meetings

SOT sponsors two types of meetings outside of the SOT annual meeting: Current Concepts in Toxicology (CCT) and Non-SOT meetings. CCT meetings are one- to two-day focused, open registration, scientific meetings in contemporary and rapidly progressing areas of toxicological sciences. Non-SOT meetings are sponsored by other not-for-profit organizations and SOT will either endorse or provide sponsorship money to toxicology-related meetings.

CCT meetings may be held as satellites to the SOT annual meeting, as specialty or regional meetings, or may be held independently. In order to maintain the quality standards of the Society, only meetings in which SOT maintains scientific and administrative control will be considered. (Meetings developed and administered by other organizations may be eligible for Non-SOT meeting endorsement.) CCT proposals may be submitted to the Society of Toxicology by specialty sections, regional chapters, individual members, or other not-for-profit organizations. Applications for CCT meetings will be reviewed quarterly and should be sent to SOT headquarters by January 1, April 1, July 1, or September 1. SOT strives to provide feedback on endorsement within 2 months from the quarterly deadlines. Submitters should allow 12–18 months for evaluation, organization and promotion of the meeting.

Non-SOT meetings are sponsored by other not-for-profit organizations and SOT may select to either endorse or provide sponsorship money to these toxicology-related meetings. Programs will be endorsed or funded based on the quality of science and relevance to toxicology; breadth and scope of scientific appeal; timeliness of topic; selection of speakers, completeness of proposal; financial considerations, and frequency of presentation. Applications for non-SOT meetings will be reviewed quarterly and should be sent to SOT headquarters by January 1, April 1, July 1, or September 1. SOT strives to provide feedback within 2 months from the quarterly deadlines. Applications may request either Meeting Endorsement or Meeting Funding.

Full [meeting application](#) details can be found on the SOT Web site.

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#### SOT Co-Sponsors Emerging Molecular and Computational Approaches for Cross-Species Extrapolations Workshop with SETAC

The Society of Toxicology (SOT) and the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) jointly sponsored a workshop entitled "Emerging Molecular and Computational Approaches for Cross-Species Extrapolations" in Forest Grove, Oregon, USA from 19 to 22 July 2004. The overall goal of the workshop was to outline a research agenda utilizing emerging technologies in omics and computational biology in order to: 1) elucidate similarities and differences among species, 2) relate stressor-mediated responses to adverse outcomes, and 3) extend this science into innovative approaches to risk assessment and regulatory decision-making.

A full workshop summary is show below. If you would like further information on sponsoring an SOT CCT, please review the [application instructions](#) on the SOT Web site.

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#### Emerging Molecular and Computational Approaches for Cross-Species Extrapolations: A Workshop Summary

*Submitted by **William H. Benson***

Advances in molecular technology have led to the elucidation of full genomic sequences of several multicellular organisms, ranging from nematodes to man. The related molecular fields of proteomics and metabolomics are now beginning to advance rapidly as well. In addition, advances in bioinformatics and mathematical modeling provide powerful approaches for elucidating patterns of biological response imbedded in the massive data sets produced during genomics research. Thus, changes or differences in the expression patterns of entire genomes at the levels of mRNA, protein and metabolism can be assessed rapidly. Collectively, these emerging approaches may greatly enhance our ability to address many of the major issues in human and environmental toxicology. Specifically, they are uniquely qualified to address the issue of cross-species extrapolation in risk assessment in both human and environmental toxicology.

Although there may be important differences in the genomes and proteomes among species, many of the responses to various stressors are evolutionarily conserved. For example, consider how fish, birds, and mammalian species respond to external stressors, including chemical toxicants (both synthetic and natural), genotoxicants (carcinogenic or mutagenic), or parasites. Stressed organisms can initiate both defensive and offensive actions to counteract adverse responses. Many of these defensive responses to external stimuli are common to many organisms, including wildlife species (fish, birds, invertebrates) and humans. Genomic technologies may provide great insight into how diverse organisms respond to environmental stressors.

Motivated by these concerns, the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) and the Society of Toxicology (SOT) jointly sponsored a workshop entitled "Emerging Molecular and Computational Approaches for Cross-Species Extrapolations" in Forest Grove, Oregon, USA from July 19–20, 2004. This workshop was significant because leading societies - concerned on the one hand with the integrity of the environment (SETAC) and on the other hand with the improvement of human health (SOT) - worked together. Thirty-five scientists and professionals were brought together from diverse fields including environmental toxicology and chemistry, biomedical toxicology, molecular biology, genetics, physiology, bioinformatics, computer science and statistics. Such collaboration provided an ideal vehicle for objective and balanced discussion of this topic among professionals from different yet highly inter-related disciplines. The overall goal of the workshop was to outline a research agenda utilizing emerging technologies in omics and computational biology in order to: 1) elucidate similarities and differences among species, 2) relate stressor-mediated responses to adverse outcomes, and 3) extend this science into innovative approaches to risk assessment and regulatory decision-making.

Workshop participants identified specific research gaps and emerging issues. Key conclusions and recommendations workshop were:

- Genomic technologies provide powerful research tools, but are currently insufficient as a basis for risk assessment and replacement of traditional approaches.
- Perform collaborative proof of concept studies to improve our understanding of cross-species extrapolation by characterizing similarities and differences in metabolic pathways.
- Develop more standardized approaches for omics technologies and associated data analysis.
- Develop genomic databases for selected surrogate species, focusing on basic, conserved cellular and physiologic processes.

- Perform studies to validate relationship between omics responses and adverse biological outcomes.
- Form a standing task force for cross-species/genomic issues.
- Enhance training in genomic technologies, particularly within the context of an interdisciplinary approach.

All relevant discussions and conclusions from the workshop will be published in a book edited by William H. Benson and Richard T. Di Giulio, and published through SETAC Press as was a previous SETAC-SOT Workshop which focused on interconnections between human health and ecological integrity (Di Giulio and Benson, 2002). The conclusions and recommendations from the 2002 Workshop on human health-ecological integrity served as the basis for the workshop on computational approaches and cross-species extrapolations.

*Di Giulio, R.T. and W.H. Benson (eds.). 2002. Interconnections Between Human Health and Ecological Integrity. SETAC Press, Pensacola, FL.*

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Toxicologists and Toxicologic-Pathologists at Lake Constance, Germany

*Submitted by Daniel Dietrich*

Prof. **Daniel Dietrich** (Environmental Toxicology, University of Konstanz, Germany) and Dr. **Ulrich Deschl** (Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma, Germany) have co-organized the first joint specialty symposium on renal toxicology and toxicologic pathology "An Integration of Mechanistic Investigation and Morphological Investigation" under the auspices of the Society of Toxicology (SOT-CCT) and the European Society of Toxicologic Pathology (ESTP).

The meeting was located on the island of Lindau, where also the Annual Meeting of the Nobel prize laureates takes place and was inaugurated by the Chancellor of the University of Konstanz, Prof. **Gerhart von Graevenitz**, by the Mayor of Lindau, **Petra Meier to Bernd-Seidl**, by the President of the State Council of the Canton Thurgau, Switzerland, Dr. **Claudius Graf-Schelling** and by the conference organizer Prof. Daniel Dietrich.

More than 220 scientists from universities, government institutes and industry from 21 countries as well as 14 exhibitors traveled to Lindau to enjoy cutting-edge science, excellent exhibitions, a relaxed and motivating atmosphere and last but not least the picturesque environment of the old town of Lindau, its fabulous restaurants and sceneries as well as the welcoming atmosphere extended to the participants by the Lindau Tourist office and its staff as well as the inhabitants of Lindau.

Keynote lectures were given by various scientists noted for their work in their respective field (Frans Russel, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Role of Drug Transporters in Renal Toxicity; Rick Schnellmann, Medical University of South Carolina, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Charleston, U.S.A., Calpains in Cell Injury and Death: Role of a Novel Mitochondrial Calpain; **Bob van de Water**, University of Leiden, Division of Toxicology, Leiden, The Netherlands, Cell adhesion receptor signalling and acute renal failure; **Cheryl Walker**, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Carcinogenesis, Smithville, U.S.A., Molecular Genetics of Renal Carcinogenesis; **Jerrold M. Ward**, NIAID, NIH, Bethesda, U.S.A., Renal Carcinogenesis 2004: Pathology and Pathogenesis). Furthermore, more than 80 other contributions were presented either as oral, poster or case presentations. The high level of scientific quality convinced a number of companies to sponsor this event with generous donations, without which this joint meeting could not have been carried out. It is an honor for me to express my sincerest gratitude to the sponsors and exhibitors in view of their important contributions to and support for this joint meeting.

Various awards were presented during the symposium dinner and final night reception: the ESTP award (honored with 1,000 Euro) for an outstanding publication by an ESTP member in the field of toxicologic pathology, sponsored by Novartis Pharma AG, was given to Dr. **Agnes Schulte**. For the first time, the ESTP offered awards for outstanding theses in toxicological pathology, sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH & Co. KG: the award honored with 5,000 Euro was given to Dr. med. vet. **Nadja Herbach**, the award honored with 3,000 Euro was given to Dr. med. vet. **Andreas Alfons Beineke** and another award honored with 2,000 Euro was given to Ms. **Duangrudee Cherdwongcharoensuk**, BSc, MSc. Furthermore, Dr. **Eberhard Karbe** has been awarded Honorary Membership of the ESTP in recognition of his long-standing service.

Despite, or expressis verbis in view, of the long week with demanding scientific presentations as well as local beer enhanced discussions and demonstrations at the exhibitors booths, the evenings were spent with visits to a local vineyard, a reception per invitation to the old townhouse of Lindau by the Mayor of Lindau, **Petra Meier to Bernd-Seidl** and finally a festive dinner and an excellent band that

brought even the most reluctant bone to get off the chair and start dancing. Indeed, a measure of the mood of the final night may be the fact that the organizers had to convince the band to keep on playing until 2 a.m. the next morning because the "scientists" were reluctant to stop partying.

In conclusion, the organizers and their staff saw only happy faces, some with head- and muscle-aches from the festivities and dancing, and heard numerous very encouraging and motivating comments to consider another joint SOT, -STP, -ESTP, or -CCT meeting in the near future.

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### **Annual Meeting News**

Special Sessions at 2005 Society of Toxicology Meeting

A number of special sessions will be part of the 2005 Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. These include the following:

#### **Plenary Lecture : Monday, March 7, at 8:30 AM – 9:15 AM**

**Dr. John D. Graham**, Office of Management and Budget, the 2005 Plenary Lecturer, will engage the audience with his presentation entitled "Regulatory Reform in the United States: Progress and Challenges."

#### **Issues Session: Wednesday, March 9, 12:00 NOON – 1:00 PM**

**Impact of the Reorganization of NIH on Training of the Next Generation of Toxicologists.** A panel of representatives from the NIH Center for Scientific Review, NIEHS, past and current NIH Study Section chairs, and the SOT Task Force on NIH Funding will discuss the impact that the reorganization of NIH will have on the training the next generation of toxicologists.

**Chairperson: David Eaton**, University of Washington

#### **SOT/EUROTOX Debate: Motion: Nanoparticles are a Major Threat to Human Health**

**Tuesday, March 9, 12:00 NOON – 1:00 PM**

**Sponsored by:** SOT/EUROTOX

**Debaters: (SOT) Joseph V. Rodricks**, The ENVIRON Institute for Health Risk Sciences, Arlington, VA  
**EUROTOX: Anthony Seaton**, University of Aberdeen, Scotland

#### **Medical Research Council (MRC) Lecture - Tuesday, March 8, 12:00 NOON – 1:00 PM**

**Lecturer: Stuart Lipton**, Professor and Scientific Director, Center for Neuroscience and Aging, the Burnham Institute, Professor (adjunct) the Salk Institute, The Scripps Research Institute, and the University of California, San Diego

**Title:** TBA

#### **Forum on Grantsmanship and Sources for Research Support - Tuesday, March 8, 1:30 – 3:30 PM**

Chairpersons: **Mitzi Nagarkatti**, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, and **Rosita Proteau**, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

**Sponsored by:** Career Resource and Development Committee and Education Committee

Reorganization of the NIH Study Sections, **Patrick Mastin**, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, NC

Non-Conventional Sources of NIH Funding, **Carol Schreffler**, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, NC

Funding from Environmental Protection Agency, **Elaine Z. Francis**, U.S. EPA, Washington, DC

Funding Alternatives to NIH: Being Creative, **Jean F. Regal**, University of Minnesota Medical School, Duluth, MN

For a complete listing of SOT special events and up-to-the-moment details, access the [Special Sessions information](#) section from the Annual Meeting Web pages.

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#### **44th Annual Meeting Information**

##### Annual Meeting Sponsorship

It is the generous contributions of the Annual Meeting Sponsors that allow SOT to keep member registration rates affordable. There are currently five levels of sponsorship: Diamond (over \$10,000), Platinum (\$5,000 – \$9,999), Gold (\$2,500 – \$4,999), Silver (\$1,000 – \$2,499), and Contributor (\$500 – \$999). Reference the Annual Meeting Web site for more information on [sponsorship opportunities](#), please contact [Libby Jones](#) via email, or by phone at (703) 438-3115.

##### **Ancillary Events**

All requests for hospitality suites and ancillary meetings must be approved by SOT Headquarters. To reserve a meeting room, please contact [Heidi Prange](#). Ancillary functions may only be hosted by SOT Associates, Exhibitors, or organizations affiliated with SOT. Hospitality suites and ancillary meeting space book fast, so send your request now.

Please note that no hospitality functions or ancillary meetings may be scheduled during the following SOT events:

- Sunday – 5:00 PM–7:30 PM SOT Awards Presentation and Welcoming Reception
- Monday – Thursday 8:00 AM–11:30 AM Morning SOT Scientific Sessions
- Monday – Wednesday 1:30 PM–4:30 PM Afternoon SOT Scientific Sessions
- Tuesday – 4:30 PM–6:00 PM SOT Annual Business Meeting

Once submitted, your request will be reviewed, and if your request is approved, you will receive an “approval statement” with a coded event number from the [SOT Headquarters](#) Office. The approval statement will enable you to book meeting space at one of the [SOT hotels](#).

The hotels are not permitted to book meeting space without the authorized approval statement and coded event number. The hotel convention service manager will be able to discuss meeting room rental, food and beverage, and audio visual equipment requests. All coordination for your event should be done between the hotel convention service manager and the ancillary function organizer.

##### **Volunteer to Help with SOT Activities!**

No matter your interests, there are many places where you can help with SOT programs. For example, at the Annual Meeting you could host an undergraduate student, serve as a toxicology expert during an informal graduate student lunch, mentor a K–12 teacher, or serve as a greeter. You might be asked to serve on an [SOT committee](#), or work on a committee project as an ad hoc member. Let SOT leadership know about your interests by supplying your information using the [On-Line Volunteer Form](#).

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##### SOT Long-Range Plan Initiatives: The Annual Meeting Impact

Did you know that your choice of hotel for the SOT Annual Meeting has a direct impact on the Society's [Long-Range Plan](#) (LRP) initiatives? For the 2005 SOT Annual Meeting we have partnered with several hotels in New Orleans where arrangements have been made for you to receive special convention rates during the Annual Meeting. Although we understand that staying outside of the chosen hotel block can sometimes be more economical, it decreases the money available to the Society to carry out its long term goals.

Our contract has been negotiated so that hotel rooms within the SOT block receive a commission, with all commissions paid directly to SOT. SOT depends on the Annual Meeting revenue to fund other programs throughout the year including Student awards, travel grants, fellowships, internships, and the K–12 teachers program to name a few.

Please keep SOT in mind when making your [hotel reservations](#) for the [SOT 2005 Annual Meeting](#).

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Students: Add these Events to your Annual Meeting Schedule!

The [Student Advisory Committee](#) (SAC) and other SOT groups are organizing many events of special

interest to students. These include the popular Student/Postdoctoral Fellow Mixer on Sunday night, the In Vitro Toxicology Lecture and Lunch on Tuesday, and the [Lunch with an Expert](#) (LWAE) gatherings throughout the meetings. Registration for the Mixer and the Lecture is on the [Annual Meeting Registration Form](#) and registration for LWAE is at the link given above.

In addition, SOT Council has reserved time on Wednesday night for a conversation with student members, so please come and contribute your thoughts. Specialty Sections would like to see an increase in student participation, so you won't want to miss the Specialty Section events of interest to you.

Here are other sessions of special note to students:

- Saturday, March 5, 5:00–7:00 PM. "Career Move: An Amalgam of Opportunities and Uncertainties." This workshop is targeted to those seeking career advancement opportunities and will address the major issues that are faced particularly prior to job seeking such as marketing yourself, critical decision-making, and negotiating offers.
- Monday, March 7, 4:30–6:00 PM. Consulting as a Career Choice. Participants will learn about life as a toxicology consultant, choosing to operate as a sole practitioner *versus* joining a company, starting a consulting business, consulting following retirement, and Internet-based and other tools to increase your visibility and client portfolio.

For full information, check the [Student Events](#) section of the Annual Meeting site and the Annual Meeting calendar. In January, the SAC will publish the Student Event Planner for the 2005 SOT Annual Meeting. This planner details student events and is intended to assist students in planning their daily activities for the SOT meeting. This is a valuable resource for any student attending the meeting!

The SAC will publish a spring *SOTudent Newsletter* that will highlight all of the student events and other exciting activities from the 2005 SOT Meeting in New Orleans. For those of you who are unable to attend the meeting, this newsletter will be a great way for you to keep informed about student issues and events that transpired at the meeting.

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#### SOT Seeks Hosts for the 2005 Minority Student Program

Will you serve as a Host for a group of minority undergraduate students and their advisors at the 2005 Annual Meeting in New Orleans?

The success of the Undergraduate Education Program for Minority Students program depends not only on the excellent speakers, but also the Hosts and graduate student Peer Mentors who participate with the students.

The Hosts and Peer Mentors arrive Saturday, March 5, 2005, and meet their groups during the evening reception. Each group includes one or more toxicologist Hosts, a Peer Mentor (who has participated previously in the program or is in graduate school), an advisor from an undergraduate institution, and four or five students.

During the two-day program, the groups will investigate the field of toxicology, interact with poster presenters, learn about toxicology as a career, and explore options for graduate school. Hosts meet at various times with students from Saturday evening through 1 PM Monday to put the students at ease, discuss what a career as a scientist is like, answer questions, help students find the rooms for their sessions, review posters, and visit the exhibit hall and scientific sessions together.

This is a rewarding opportunity to mentor students. To volunteer, please contact the Subcommittee for Minority Initiatives member [Peter Thomas](#) or [Betty Eidemiller](#) at [SOT Headquarters](#).

#### *Regular Features*

##### Call for 2006 CE Proposals

The Continuing Education (CE) Committee promises another exciting Annual Meeting Program and will offer cutting-edge CE sessions on the latest advances in toxicological science. But, it doesn't end with the Annual Meeting. That is only the beginning because we need input from our Society members and Specialty Sections (SS) for the CE courses to be offered in 2006. Proposals must be submitted on-line by April 30, 2005. Key factors to keep in mind in the development of a CE proposal are:

- Develop topics that span the interest of a wide range of toxicologists so that a course will attract members from more than one Specialty Section and be of interest to individuals within their specialty area of research.
- Start early and decide in advance which courses would be most appropriate for your section to

solicit and endorse, and then develop them for inclusion at the next meeting.

- Work with other SS to develop broad-based courses of widespread appeal or co-sponsor CE courses with other SS.

The CE Committee will work with interested parties in the development of courses. A CE matrix, which contains all the CE courses offered over the past 14 years, has been distributed to all SS Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Vice Presidents-elect for their review. This matrix categorizes the courses by topic, frequency, level (basic/advanced), as well as by SS endorsements. We encourage you to develop a CE course within your SS so that it can be considered for inclusion in the 2006 SOT Program.

If you would like to review the 1990-2004 CE Matrix, please contact your SS President, [Nichelle Sankey](#), or [Ken Wallace](#).

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#### Post-Doctoral Task Force Identifies Steps Forward

*Submitted by **Jim Luyendyk**, SOT-PDTF Coordinator*

The SOT Post-Doctoral Task Force (SOT-PDTF) began its activities in September 2004. The SOT-PDTF is an extension of the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) and is comprised of post-doctoral members of the SOT. The primary purpose of this group is to assist the Society in better meeting the needs of its post-doctoral membership. The SOT-PDTF communicates primarily through an on-line message board system. Thus far, several issues have been discussed, including proposed additions to post-doc awards and events at SOT annual meetings. Perhaps the most exciting action the Task Force is taking is creation of a Web site targeted specifically for post-docs. This site will concentrate all relevant Society post-doctoral information so that it is only 1-2 clicks away! In addition, this site will be home to web-based surveys, distribution of SOT-PDTF updates and more! Post-docs, watch your e-mail for further announcements!

It is not too late to join the SOT-PDTF! No Committee experience necessary! If you are a post-doctoral member of the Society, you are fully qualified. For more information, contact [Jim Luyendyk](#).

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#### U.S. EPA Uses SOT Educational Outreach Materials to Share Science with Students

SOT provided educational outreach materials for a recent workshop "Science is Cool – Take it to School" at U.S. EPA in Research Triangle Park, NC. The objective of the workshop was to encourage U.S. EPA scientists to share their expertise and enthusiasm for science with students in the community. The workshop included strategies for sharing science with students, environmental education resources available such as the SOT materials, and demonstrations of several hands-on activities: measuring lung capacity, making simple "particle collectors," understanding weather, viewing chromatography in action, seeing how germs and pesticides can be carried through exposure, and playing U.S. EPA's Air Quality Jeopardy.

Many resources for grades K-12 are available in the [Toxicology for Educators](#) section. However, SOT frequently provides print education outreach materials to scientists, teachers, and students upon request. These items include the colorful toxicology career brochure, copies of educational leaflets such as the *BioRAP* issue on Risk Assessment and *BioSTARS* issue on poisons, content of presentations given to past teacher workshops, and other materials used in conjunction with K-12 Subcommittee outreach activities and exhibit. The K-12 Subcommittee also has connections to the Regional Chapters through the K-12 Regional Chapter education outreach contacts, coordinated by **Marion Miller**. Whether you want to give a career day presentation in your child's classroom, or start a local effort to enhance science education, look for resources in the [Toxicology for Educators](#) section or contact [SOT Headquarters](#) for more information.

The SOT materials sent to North Carolina have been put to good use. Since the September 30 U.S. EPA Workshop, participants have begun a bi-monthly seminar series at the NCCU Early College High School, including presentations at the historically black university on October 27 and November 10. Scientists have also hosted a Science Day at Y. E. Smith Science and Technology Magnet School in Durham on November 9, a low-income, Title 1 school with 90% minority students.

For more information about the U.S. EPA program, contact [Kelly Leovic](#) in the National Exposure Research Laboratory.

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#### SOT Member Active in Developing Opportunities in Toxicology for African Students

SOT Member **Chudy Nduaka** reports that the [NEF \(Africa Education Initiative\)](#) has reached an agreement with The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Research (NIPRD) in Abuja, Nigeria, to

support a student internship program in toxicology. This is one initiative among many to further the advancement of science in Africa by providing materials and essential tools for education, learning opportunities, and the exchange of information. Five students have already benefited from the NEF Internship program. NEF has donated computers and other educational aids to universities and institutions in Africa, including the Nigerian institutions Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria; Abia State University, Okigwe; and The University of Ibadan, and the Liberian United Methodist University (UMU) in Monrovia, as well as others.

The Toxicology Internship Program is made possible by grants from Pfizer Corporation and Abbott Laboratories.

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SOT Member Receives Honor

*Submitted by **Bob Scala***

**Arthur A. Levin**, Ph.D., Vice-President of Development at Isis Pharmaceuticals, received the 2004 Alumni Service Award from his graduate school alma mater, the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. He had spent 15 years on the Medical School Alumni Council and worked diligently on issues relating to graduate students and graduate alumni. His citation also noted his tireless efforts in career counseling and mentoring of students.

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Make an Impact on Capitol Hill

Your members of Congress want to hear from you and SOT.

Help increase SOT's visibility as a scientific resource for Congress.

Next time you are traveling to the Nation's capital, consider a visit to your Representative's or Senators' offices. The SOT [Regulatory Affairs and Legislative Assistance \(RALA\)](#) Committee is ready to assist you in your visit. To plan your interesting and rewarding visit, contact [SOT headquarters](#) office or a member of RALA today!

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SOT Northland Chapter K-12 Outreach Update

The K-12 committee of NLSOT has had an active year (2004) of outreach. The venues for outreach and education have included:

1. Participation in K-12 activities at the 2004 SOT Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD. Meetings and events were attended by NLSOT members with posters being presented in a special poster session.
2. Participation in environmental and health career and activity event (April 2004) – This event was attended by Girl Scouts ages 9 through 17 in Hudson, WI. A highlight of the booth was Tox-in-a-Box activity and "shark's blood." (During that same weekend the NLSOT K-12 committee received a request from Ken Wallace for the use of the career display for a high school career day in the Duluth area.)
3. Participation in the Minnesota Science Teachers Association (May 2004) annual spring conference in Mankato, MN. Approximately 300 teachers attended the conference. NLSOT distributed 70 of 100 seed experiments. A highlight of the booth was a pharmacology puzzle created by NLSOT member Jeffrey Stevens.
4. Participation in the "Grand Excursion" event (May 2004) held by St. Paul Public Schools at Harriet Island Park in St. Paul. NLSOT provided a career display and discussed toxicology careers with high school students. Over 350 students participated in the event.
5. Web Action: Web master Chuck Stroebel at the MDH has posted the K-12 poster, the seed bioassay, and the classroom resources slide show on the [NLSOT Web site](#).
6. Individual outreach: NLSOT members continue to use Tox-in-a-box and ToxRAP to deliver program to youth.

Upcoming events for the remainder of 2004:

1. October 2004 – participate in the 3M Visiting Wizards teacher workshop at 3M. NLSOT will have a booth and distribute the seed bioassays.

2. November 2004 - Eye to the Future Careers Workshop to interest middle school girls in science and math. Sponsored by Augsburg College and brought to the committee's attention by chapter president Betsy Wattenberg (see [http://www.augsburg.edu/nasa\\_space\\_grant/eye.html](http://www.augsburg.edu/nasa_space_grant/eye.html)).

3. November 2004 - K-12 classroom activities for NLSOT members to be held in conjunction with the fall NLSOT meeting. Four or five classroom lessons will be shared—in a hands-on workshop—with members interested in taking these lessons into classrooms.

SOT continues to be grateful to its' Regional Chapters for their outreach efforts, and looks forward to reading more about planned activities including the teacher education opportunities that now seem to have become routine. To highlight its' outreach efforts, the committee plans include making a second career display poster that will be used in Duluth, and creating a classroom poster version of the display in addition to making copies to give to teachers. The chapter is also interested in mass-producing the pharmacology puzzle created by Jeff Stevens as a teaching tool for teachers.

If you have ideas on enhancing the public outreach efforts of the Northland Chapter, please contact Tom Brunshidle at [tpbrunshidle@mmm.com](mailto:tpbrunshidle@mmm.com).

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#### In Memoriam

Herbert Cornish  
William Gray  
Lewis E. Harris  
Patricia Holmes  
Nathan Rakieton  
Herbert Remmer  
Philippe Shubik  
Charles Tyson  
Philip Watanabe

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Career Resource and Development Service: Position Advertisements

#### Faculty Position — Diet, Metabolism and Chronic Disease Cause and Prevention

The Department of Nutritional Sciences and Toxicology and the School of Public Health at the University of California at Berkeley are seeking an Assistant Professor of Toxicology for a nine-month tenure track position starting July 1, 2005.

The appointee is expected to develop a research program in the application of molecular and biochemical techniques in cultured cells and rodent models of human chronic disease. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, the use of cellular and whole animal approaches to investigate underlying mechanisms of, for example, the genetic bases for the role of food components in carcinogenesis, immune function, atherogenesis, abnormal development, and aging. The appointee may work with graduate students seeking advanced degrees in Molecular Toxicology, Molecular and Biochemical Nutrition, Comparative Biochemistry, Endocrinology, and related fields. The applicant should hold a Ph.D. or equivalent degree, with training and experience in toxicology/nutrition or related area. The applicant should have experience and promise in effective classroom teaching. Teaching assignments will include contributions to existing undergraduate and graduate courses, and the development of an advanced course in the biochemical role of diet in the cause and prevention of chronic disease.

Applications should be submitted to **Dr. Hei Sook Sul**, Search Committee Chair, Dept of Nutritional Sciences & Toxicology, 119 Morgan Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720-3104.

Applications should be accompanied by a complete *curriculum vitae*, a statement of research interests, copies of 2–3 publications related to current research interests, and a brief description of teaching and professional experience. Applicants should submit the names of at least three references that are able to evaluate the applicant's research and teaching potential. Application deadline: December 31, 2004. Applications postmarked after the deadline will not be considered.

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