FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

University of Washington Dean and Professor Wins Society of Toxicology Public Communications Award

Reston, Va.; March 17, 2014 — For his work promoting and explaining toxicology to people outside of the scientific field, University of Washington’s David L. Eaton, PhD, DABT, ATS, has won the 2014 Society of Toxicology (SOT) Public Communications Award. With this award, SOT, a professional association of more than 7,700 toxicologists, annually distinguishes a scientist who has spent many years devoted to educating non-scientists about the importance and impact of toxicological research and activities. Dr. Eaton will be formally presented with his peer-nominated award at SOT’s 53rd Annual Meeting and ToxExpo in Phoenix, Ariz., on March 23, 2014.

“I am in awe of the breadth and success of his efforts,” says nominator Charlene A. McQueen, PhD, ATS. “He has made lasting contributions to improve the understanding and use of toxicology by the public, whether they are government officials, educators, health professionals, or private citizens to name a few.”

The SOT Public Communications Award recognizes Dr. Eaton for his commitment to public education through his multiple publications in the area of general education, for his work educating lawyers about toxicology, and for promoting multidisciplinary scientific endeavors. Dr. Eaton began his work translating toxicology for the justice community back in 1981 and has published numerous papers devoted to toxic torts that serve as resources to judges and lawyers alike.

In regards to multidisciplinary research, Dr. Eaton founded University of Washington’s Center for Ecogenetics and Environmental Health (CEEH) in 1995. The CEEH focuses on improving public health through the study of various genetic factors through multiple disciplines, but the center also focuses on providing K-12 educators and community groups with turn-key materials to present environmental health sciences in a fun and relatable way.

Dr. Eaton serves as vice provost for graduate education and dean of the Graduate School at the University of Washington and is a professor of environmental and occupational health sciences. In recognition of his substantial scientific achievements, including his efforts in public education,
he was elected to the prestigious Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences in 2011.

Dr. Eaton received his BS from Montana State University and his PhD in pharmacology from the University of Kansas Medical Center.

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**About SOT**

Founded in 1961, the Society of Toxicology (SOT) is a professional and scholarly organization of more than 7,700 scientists from academic institutions, government, and industry representing the great variety of individuals who practice toxicology in the US and abroad. SOT is committed to creating a safer and healthier world by advancing the science of toxicology. The Society promotes the acquisition and utilization of knowledge in toxicology, aids in the protection of public health, and has a strong commitment to education in toxicology and to the recruitment of students and new members into the profession. For more information about SOT and toxicology, visit the Society online at [www.toxicology.org](http://www.toxicology.org), follow us on Twitter [@SOToxicology](https://twitter.com/SOToxicology), and like us on Facebook.

**Media Contact:**

Michelle Werts
Society of Toxicology
703.438.3115 ext. 1640
michelle@toxicology.org