

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Toxicologists Who Are Helping Improve Public Health Honored
With 2016 SOT Awards**

–Society of Toxicology Recognizing More Than Two Dozen Eminent Scientists
and Future Scientific Leaders–

Reston, Va.; December 14, 2015 — From helping determine safe levels of common items like fluoride and caffeine to determining how environmental exposures may increase cancer risk and from using computational modeling and animal alternatives in chemical safety testing to improving patient care, the 2016 Society of Toxicology (SOT) Award recipients have had pronounced impacts on creating a safer and healthier world.

“Toxicologists are involved in research that both assesses the safety of chemicals and compounds and determines the mechanisms, or ways, in which chemicals and compounds affect the body. The 2016 SOT awardees are among the best and brightest of our scientists whose work in these areas has greatly impacted public health — or soon will,” says Peter L. Goering, SOT President 2015–2016. “We also are pleased to honor exceptional individuals who are educating the next generation of scientists and who are making toxicology more accessible to all.”

Through its 2016 Awards, the Society will recognize more than two dozen groundbreaking scientists, emerging leaders, postdoctoral researchers, and graduate students who are advancing the science of toxicology. The 2016 honorees represent various disciplines, which all factor into toxicological research, and represent multiple continents and countries. Beyond scientific achievements, the SOT Awards also recognize the contributions of educators and science communicators as they work to encourage students to pursue STEM careers and improve public understanding of the connection between scientific research and public health.

The 2016 SOT Award recipients will be formally honored during an awards ceremony during the Society’s 55th Annual Meeting and ToxExpo in New Orleans, Louisiana, March 13–17, 2016, alongside the previously announced SOT Global Senior Scholar Exchange Program awardees and the still to be announced SOT/SOT Endowment Fund/IUTOX Travel Award recipients.

The 2016 SOT Award recipients are:

SOT Honorary Membership

Raymond B. Nagle, MD, PhD, University of Arizona Health Sciences Center, Tucson, AZ

SOT Achievement Award

Lauren Aleksunes, PharmD, PhD, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ

SOT Arnold J. Lehman Award

Alan Boobis, OBE, BSc, PhD, FSB, FBTS, Imperial College London, London, United Kingdom

SOT Distinguished Toxicology Scholar Award

I. Glenn Sipes, PhD, ATS, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

SOT Education Award

Kenneth Reuhl, PhD, DABT, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ

John Wise Sr., PhD, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY

SOT Enhancement of Animal Welfare Award

Warren Casey, PhD, DABT, NIH, Durham, NC

SOT Founders Award

Richard Adamson, PhD, TPN Associates LLC, Walpole, MA

SOT Leading Edge in Basic Science Award

Cheryl Lyn Walker, PhD, ATS, Texas A&M Institute of Biosciences and Technology, Houston, TX

SOT Merit Award

Melvin Andersen, PhD, DABT, CIH, ATS, The Hamner Institutes for Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, NC

SOT Public Communications Award

Steven Gilbert, PhD, DABT, Institute of Neurotoxicology & Neurological Disorders, Seattle, WA

Gary Ginsberg, PhD, Connecticut Dept of Public Health, Hartford, CT

SOT Translational Impact Award

Richard Beger, MS, PhD, US FDA-NCTR, Jefferson, AR

SOT Translational/Bridging Travel Award

Mohamed Salama, MD, PhD, Mansoura University, Mansoura, Egypt

SOT Undergraduate Educator Award

Antonio Baines, BS, PhD, North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC

SOT Board of Publications for the Best Paper in Toxicological Sciences Award

“A Systems Biology Approach Utilizing a Mouse Diversity Panel Identifies Genetic Differences Influencing Isoniazid-Induced Microvesicular Steatosis” (*Toxicological Sciences*, 2014, 140(2) 481–492); Authors: **Rachel J. Church, Hong Wu, Merrie Mosedale, Susan J. Sumner, Wimal Pathmasiri, Catherine L. Kurtz, Matthew T. Pletcher, John S. Eaddy, Karamjeet Pandher, Monica Singer, Ameesha Batheja, Paul B. Watkins, Karissa Adkins, and Alison H. Harrill**

–more–

SOT Undergraduate Intern Travel Award

Jessica Ray, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Pfizer SOT Undergraduate Student Travel Award

Sarah Burnett, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

James M. Ding, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Benjamin Alan Elser, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Emily B. Fabyanic, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

Laura Fisch, Montana State University, Bozeman, MN

Eduardo Aztlán González, University of California Davis, Davis, CA

Mina Huerta, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH

Haydee M. Jacobs, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA

Rachael A. McMinimy, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH

Danyelle B. Osowskib, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, NC

Lizbeth Perez-Castro, University of Puerto Rico at Cayey, Gurabo, PR

Jiwon Seo, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY

Carolyn Anne Smith, United States Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT

Stephanie N. Thiedeb, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Nancy Ly Tran, Bates College, Lewiston, ME

Jamie Weimer, Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, KY

Colgate-Palmolive Grant for Alternative Research

David Pamies, MD, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

Lei Yin, PhD, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Colgate-Palmolive Award for Student Research Training in Alternative Methods

Shih-Yu Chang, MS, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Tshepo Moto, BS, MPH, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa

Colgate-Palmolive Postdoctoral Fellowship Award in In Vitro Toxicology

Katherine Dunnick, PhD, The Hamner Institutes for Health Sciences, Durham, NC

Syngenta Fellowship Award in Human Health Applications of New Technologies

Thomas Luechtefeld, BS, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

Each year, SOT also provides support to more than 100 graduate and undergraduate students through student travel awards and the SOT Endowment Fund Awards.

For more information on a particular SOT Award or award recipient, please contact Michelle Werts, SOT communications manager, at 703.438.3115 ext. 1640 or michelle@toxicology.org.

###

About SOT Awards & Honors

The Society of Toxicology (SOT) Awards program recognizes and assists distinguished toxicologists and students each year based on merit. In 1962, the Society inducted its first honorary members, establishing its honors program. In 1965, the SOT Awards program was created with the establishment of two awards, the SOT Merit Award and the SOT Achievement Award, to support “the furtherance of the science of toxicology.” Today, the Society presents more than 20 awards that recognize achievement, facilitate travel for senior and budding scientists, and further toxicological research. *Hashtag: #SOTAwards*

About SOT

Founded in 1961, the Society of Toxicology (SOT) is a professional and scholarly organization of more than 7,800 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 and increasing the impact 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, follow us on Twitter [@SOTtoxicology](https://twitter.com/SOTtoxicology), and [like us on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SOTtoxicology).