

**SRA Dose Response Speciality Group (DRSG)**  
**Monthly Business Meeting Notes**  
**January 6, 2004**  
**3:30 - 4:30 pm EST**

**Members/Attendees:** Greg Blumenthal, Peg Coleman, Gary Foureman (President), Dave Gaylor, Ralph Kodell, John Lipscomb (briefly), Resha Putzrath, Paul Schlosser, Jim Wilson, and Mike Zager

Gary introduced the agenda items and took notes.

**ITEMS OF DISCUSSION**

*1.) Introduction of new Officers:*

As they were not able to attend the National meeting in Baltimore, the new Officers were introduced, congratulated, and thanked again for their willingness to serve the DRSG. They are:

Ralph Kodell, President-elect  
Mike Zager, Vice-President  
Chandrika Moudgal, Trustee-At-Large

*2.) President's Thoughts for '04:*

Gary took this opportunity to express his pleasure to be of service to the group as President for 2004. He encouraged members and affiliates all to assume an active role as "scouts" or "rangers" for matters of dose-response and to report such back to DRSG. This activity is meant to serve DRSG's activities such as our teleseminars, and proposal of symposia/workshops for the National meeting.

*3.) Communications:*

Both Paul and Greg were recognized and commended again for their service in maintaining the Yahoo group and website and have offered to continue this service through this year. The phone line for our monthly meetings (202 275-0166, access 0577#) has been reserved for another year. It was noted that this line is reserved with 15 lines and may need to be expanded in case of some tele-seminars. (The President or his designate may do this by calling the EPA telephone conferencing center at (202) 272-2663.)

*4.) December's minutes:*

These were reviewed and corrections provided by those present.

*5.) Proposal for ACC-sponsored project on the legal use of the term adverse effect:*

Jim Wilson provided a copy of a proposal from the Duke Center for Environmental Solutions (Jonathan Weiner, Faculty Director) to prepare a paper on this subject and so

expend the \$3000 allotted for such. Paul suggested that Gary distribute the (draft) proposal to the Officership for comment and communicate with Dr. Weiner about any changes before a final letter is sent out and a request to SRA is made to disburse the funds in accordance with the draft proposal. Jim has since indicated that he has received written approval from Jim Solyst of American Chemistry Council affirming that they support the "adverse effects" project as written. Gary will see to this ASAP.

#### *6. Symposia/Workshop Proposals for the National meeting.*

The following suggestions, initially brought forth at the December business breakfast, were discussed:

- Methods for characterizing the variability in toxicity testing (from Jim Wilson)
- Development of dosimetry models for pregnant females and developing fetuses (from Greg Blumenthal who offered to check into the possibilities for a symposium)
- Development of methods to predict and measure dose-response relationships for mixtures of agents and methods to predict risks from exposure to mixtures of agents (possibly Jeff Swartout, will contact; Ralph suggested that James Chen, NCTR, may also be interested in this; following the meeting, Jim Wilson suggested adding Tony Cox's name to the list of those who could contribute to such a symposium. The paper Cox discussed briefly at the Baltimore meeting describes a method for estimating the exposure-response surfaces for mixtures of potentially-hematotoxic agents, based on knowledge of benzene and cyclophosphamide responses. Jim notes that Cox presents a novel and potentially fruitful approach to the problem. His paper is available at his web site: [www.coxassociates.com](http://www.coxassociates.com).)
- Progress in the development of models to predict toxicodynamic responses to chemical, physical, or biological agents, e.g., Tony Cox's model on the leukemia response to benzene. (Paul agreed to give some further thought to this area.)

#### *7. Teleseminars, Proposals and Ideas:*

Gary brought up to the group some ideas and individuals for seminars that were not used in the past year. These included "Hormesis and Toxicological Significance" (Joseph Rodricks, Environ) and "Mechanisms of As carcinogenicity and implications for D-R" (Mike Luster, NIOSH). Gary also mentioned that he had approached Tracy Woodruff (EPA) at the December meeting about giving a talk her project on application of BMD to low-dose response, to which she agreed.

With these suggestions, Ralph proceeded to poll members on the suitability of the topic of hormesis as a presentation. Members thought that it would be alright as long as it was along the lines of a "case-study" rather than a pedagogical-type presentation. Ralph indicated he would pursue this possibility for the coming March teleseminar, possibly involving Dave Gaylor.

### *8. Financial BusinessReport*

John reported on financial matters discussed at the Presidents' breakfast. The SRA treasurer (Rick Belzer) indicated that now all expenditures of speciality groups would be through the National organization, and that they would also be collecting the yearly speciality group dues and thereby maintain a "paid members" listing. Paul suggested that this may be the list (vice our Yahoo) that should be used in officer elections. John also provided clarification as to what monies that the National group allocates to the speciality groups. That amount is \$500.00/group for the mixer function and another \$500.00/group to support activities such as the student award. John also found out that the waiver of registration fees that is typically part of our student award is deducted from this \$500.00 activity fund.