

DRSG Teleconference

May 5, 2009

Participants: Jeff Gift, Michael Dourson, Patty Toccalino, Paul Feder, Julie Fitzpatrick, Sara Henry, Ron Lorentzen, Stephen Olin, Dale Hattis, Peter McLure, Peg Coleman, and Bette Meek.

The Program Committee for Annual Meeting will meet on June 10th. Julie Fitzpatrick and Sara Henry will be the DRSG representatives. Additionally, Steve Lewis has offered to help with DRSG representation as he did last year.

The Society of Toxicology Risk Analysis Specialty Section (SOT RASS) will be hold a teleseminar Wednesday, May 13, 2009 from 3:00 – 4:30 entitled "Science and Decisions: Advancing Risk Assessment". Two members of the NAS Committee on Improving Risk Assessment, Drs. Joseph Rodricks of Environ International Corporations and Jonathan Levy of Harvard University, will present an overview of the report and highlight critical recommendations made in the report regarding practical improvements to advance risk assessment science. SOT RASS is graciously sharing the teleconference with DRSG.

The group discussed the potential for DRSG Abstract Awards. Last year approximately 50 of the 500 abstracts submitted identified DRSG. Paul will put a committee together to evaluate the abstracts and contact Kara Morgan about getting a place on the awards program.

Patty Toccalino reported that all advertizing has been done for the student awards and we are now waiting for abstracts to come in.

Patty moved to approve the minutes from the April 7, 2009 meeting and Paul seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Julie reported the 1st Quarter 2009 Treasurer's report with a beginning balance of \$6,380.42, Income from Dues to be \$1,110.00, and annual meeting expenses to be -\$1,747.40. Current account balance is \$5743.02

Teleseminars – A group led by Jeff Gif has evaluated minutes from March 5th teleseminar to develop concise questions on background exposures and chemical mixtures for the June teleseminar which will focus on what EPA is currently doing to address probabilistic risk assessment and background exposures. In June we will have someone speak on chemical mixtures and/or chemical specific adjustment factors (CSAF). Linda T. was interested in helping but didn't commit to make a presentation. Rick Hertzberg will be approached by Jeff Gift. John Lipscomb from EPA Cincinnati may be asked to give a presentation on CSAF in relation to the NAS report. Categorical regression risk above RfD or risk across dose and time are also potential issues for discussion with Kenny Crump and Michael Brand as discussants. Jeff and Paul will coordinate discussants off line and will get larger capacity phone number for this call.

The group discussed several symposium ideas for annual meeting:

1. Food Safety – Sara Henry
 - a. Food risks with a holistic approach to food risks.
 - b. How do we compare risks?
 - c. The plan is for 3 speakers and a panel discussion (all FDA speakers).
 - d. Incorporating different aspects of risks that come from food including cooking induced risks/allergens/microbial pathogens/disinfection.
 - e. Michael Dourson and Steve Olin will provide input to Sara
2. Mode/Mechanism of Action for Microbiology – Peg Coleman
 - a. Has list of 8 -10 different (Mode/Mechanism of action for microbial) speakers.
 - b. EPA/CDC workshop in dose response assessment from animal to human
 - c. Will propose double symposium.
3. Implications of mode of action based key events analysis for risk assessment and testing strategies – Stephen Olin
 - a. Presenting information from WHO IPCS, ILSI Research Foundation, EPA & FDA
 - b. Focusing on dose response analysis at the level of key events.
 - c. The purpose is that we need the Academy to know what is going on with the various groups with CSAF and Mode of Action based testing.
4. Background/Thresholds – Michael Dourson
 - a. NAS Report Introduction from a NAS team member.
 - b. Talk that summarizes discussion from Teleseminars (Jeff Gift) followed by two talks on an Issue from the NAS Report.
5. Hormesis – Is risk assessment ready? – Steve Lewis
 - a. Will propose two sessions including a roundtable discussion with experts and audience.
 - b. Ed Calabrese, Ken Maynard (drug development), Amy Jones (opinions in the community), and need to be sure to have a chair that will bring a balance to the discussion.
6. Application of straw man system to case studies including background interaction for hazardous air pollutants – Dale Hattis
 - a. Still in the planning process and hopes to get EPA/FDA input.
 - b. Probabilistic evaluation of noncancer effects as the basis for NAS recommendations.

The group discussed the possible combining of Dale, Bette/Steve, and Michael to combine to present the best program possible. They will coordinate their submissions.

Submitted by Julie Fitzpatrick