DRSG telemeeting minutes: November 03, 2015

Present: Kan Shao (Chair), Allen Davis (Chair-elect), Julie Fitzpatrick, Paul Schlosser, Michelle Deveau, Jeff Gift, Sara Henry, Rick Hertzberg, Ingrid Druwe, Mike Musso, Peg Coleman, Kenneth Bogen, Julia Pletz (Secretary/Treasurer)

1. Approve minutes from August 4, 2015 monthly meeting. Available at: http://sra.org/sites/default/files/u35/Minutes_08-04-15.pdf (All)
The minutes were approved without any changes.

2. Summary on 2015 DRSG Student Award (Sarah and Kan)
There are three student award winners this year. 1st prize goes to Miao Guo (University of Maryland), the 2nd to Kerry Hamilton (Drexel University) and the 3rd to Kelly Harris (Meharry Medical College and Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center).

The 1st winner receives a $500 check, a certificate and an attendance fee waiver. The 2nd prize consists of a $350 check, a certificate and an attendance fee waiver. The 3rd prize consists of a $150 check, a certificate and an attendance fee waiver. Kan has only received confirmation emails from the first two winners. No feedback has been received from the 3rd winner so far. SRA will cover for the waivers and the check for the first winner.

The Microbial Risk Analysis Specialty Group gave out two 1st place student awards this year. One specialty group did not give out any student award this year and all other specialty groups gave out one student award.

3. Summary on the teleseminars in this year (Allen)
Four teleseminars have been held this year: Dr. Dale Hattis presented new visions for the future of risk analysis in June. Dr. Bernhard Goldstein spoke on dose response analysis for unconventional gas drilling in July. Dr. Rosalind Wright talked about the dose-response between perinatal stress and early childhood respiratory disorders in September. Dr. Dan Krewski presented on modeling u-shaped exposure-response relationships for agents that demonstrate toxicity due to both excess and deficiency in October.

Many thanks were extended to Michelle for helping to pull the last teleseminar together. All were well attended and well received. Speakers were of high profile this year. There were four different topics this year. One idea for future teleseminars could be to have one or two overarching themes for individual teleseminar.

4. Update on DRSG account balance (Julia)
The financial report covering April 2015 to September 2015 shows a beginning balance of approx. $7,500. An income of paid dues of approx. $300 has been noted which results in an ending balance of $7,800. Taking Kan’s expenses to travel to the SRA World Congress into account, the DRSG account holds
approx. $7000.

5. **Update on the 2015 SRA Annual Meeting program (Kan)**

Paul’s symposium was moved from Wednesday to Tuesday. Dr. Reiss from Exponent, one of Paul’s speakers, said that he could only speak on Wednesday. Therefore, Michelle was asked to accommodate Dr. Reiss’s talk in one of her sessions.

Audrey Turley’s poster presentation was shifted as an oral presentation to Paul’s symposium.

Also, one speaker submitted an abstract but he did not use the symposium code so his presentation could not be organized in that particular symposium.

Regarding registration waivers for speakers, Kan said that it would be the responsibility of DRSG to cover for the registration fees. Julie mentioned that at previous meetings, when speakers were told they would receive a waiver, DRSG paid. Kan plans to allocate $1000 for this purpose. Peg noted that her symposium would need the coverage of four non-member registration fees.

6. **Discuss DRSG officer election (All)**

   a. **Identify potential candidates for Chair-Elect, Vice-Chair, Trustee-at-Large**

Chair-Elect: 2-year term. Responsibilities include the organization of the teleseminar series in the first year. In the second year, the chair-elect will move to chair for one year. As a candidate, Kenneth Bogen of Exponent was proposed.

Vice-Chair: 2-year term. The responsibility of this position includes the communication and organizational matters related to the student award. As candidates, Michelle Deveau and Ingrid Druwe were proposed. Michelle gratefully declined due to time constraints due to her PhD project; Ingrid is a post-doc at U.S. EPA, holds an MSc in Chemistry and did her PhD on arsenic low dose exposures.

Trustee-at-Large: 2-year term. The Trustee-at-Large attends meetings and provides advice to group. As candidate, Mike Musso of HDR was proposed.

Kan asked Mike, Ingrid and Ken to send him a short paragraph to introduce themselves so that the election can be run.

   b. **Timeline for conducting the poll**

The election was planned to be run in the coming week. Web-based poll will be organized by SRA. Kan will send link.
7. Plan for annual meeting (All)

a. Business meeting agenda and presentation

As next year’s Chair, Allen will be the main presenter at this year’s meeting. Kan will send a draft presentation to Allen who will prepare his presentation on that basis.

b. Mixer plan and budget

Kan said that, officially, DRSG does not have to provide any financial support to the mixer. Julie added that usually SRA provides a certain amount and the specialty groups add another $ 500. Peg confirmed this remark and added that she will be happy to contact the other specialty groups – MRASG, EASG, ARMSG – and check whether they would be happy to contribute to get a good food selection.

If we order additional food and drinks, SRA will communicate to the hotel that our room will be provided with more food and drinks. According to Sara and Peg, additional food may be picked by Kan if the organization is the same as in previous years. Paul added that the hotel will provide a cash bar in the hallway. Kan will ask SRA whether we will have the option to choose food from the hotel and will clarify whether additional drinks may be needed.

c. DRSG to be presented at SRA meeting

As in the previous year, a DRSG poster will be presented at the meeting. Allen will be happy to send the previous poster he designed to Ken so he can put together this year’s DRSG poster.

Allen and Kan will organize the business meeting at SRA.

8. Other items?

Jeff announced that there will be an EPA webinar two days following the SRA Annual Meeting on 10-11 Dec from 10 am to 4 pm on dose-response modelling. He will send out an invitation email. There will be a registration site and the main focus will be on a set of invited experts who will comment on support material that will be provided.

The next monthly meeting will be held in January 2016 and will be chaired by Allen.