



TOXTALK

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EDITORIAL

FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY— NEED FOR NEW EMERGING DEFINITIONS

Yale H. Caplan, Ph.D., DABFT, ToxTalk Co-Editor

In December 1987, an editorial in these pages entitled "Forensic Toxicology – Emerging Definitions" describing the impact of the pending NIDA / SAMHSA Guidelines on the field of forensic toxicology foreshadowed the SOFT/AAFS Guidelines and the broadening scope of professional certification for toxicologists and accreditation for laboratories. In the two decades that followed, the SOFT / AAFS Guidelines were adopted and revised to become the standard of practice for laboratories, and ABFT expanded programs to include Certificants (Diplomates and Forensic Toxicology Specialists) at varying levels of academic accomplishment.

Forensic Toxicology continues to expand, and again definitions of practice emerge and deserve recognition. Postmortem toxicology stands alone to encompass death investiga-

tion. But those areas involving the performance of living human subjects (usually attributed to DUI / DUID) and workplace testing (usually limited to jobs in regulated and similar workplaces) combine to describe a new area - **performance enhancement forensic toxicology**. This includes the testing for steroids and other specialty drugs (and possibly physiological factors) that challenge the many areas of competitive sports but also includes workplaces where heightened performance may be needed to protect society. These areas are clearly forensic in nature but competent forensic principles have not been uniformly applied. Appropriate definitions, rules and recognized standards where absent lead to misunderstanding and misuse of test results. Similar concerns are also echoed in legal (courts, corrections) and other settings (schools, impaired professionals) where toxicology results impinge on human freedoms.

This time is again a time like all times. It is a time to study and evaluate, to consider positions, and develop definitions and policies that permit forensic toxicologists to continue to best serve the public need.



Yale H. Caplan and Vickie W. Watts, Co-Editors of ToxTalk



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY CHRISTINE MOORE, PH.D., DABCC

Greetings from Southern California. It is both my privilege and my pleasure to be your President for 2008. As many of you will remember from discussion during the Business Meeting in North Carolina (2007), some financial issues were identified for future consideration. I feel it is appropriate in this initial message of 2008 to give the membership additional clarification in this area.

The annual operating budget for S.O.F.T. is approximately \$110,000 (see Treasurer's Report in this issue), with most of that coming from two sources: annual dues (\$40,000 or so, depending upon when in the year the dues are paid); and meeting profits (averaging \$40 - \$50,000 over the last few years).

TOXTALK ANNOUNCEMENT

ToxTalk proudly welcomes new Section Editor, J. Robert Zetl, who has kindly agreed to submit a regular column titled "***BITS & PIECES***" beginning with this issue.

All ToxTalk Section Editors promote reader input and article submissions to their special segments.

Another new feature, beginning with this issue is the inclusion of an editorial /opinion article. Readers of ToxTalk are encouraged to submit similar items for publication consideration.

Expenses for the organization include office rent, staff, website costs, fees for on-line registration and dues payment, publication of ToxTalk, accountant fees, and other professional commitments....to name a few. As you may surmise, even though we are not mathematicians, S.O.F.T. would therefore need the annual meeting to bring in a profit of more than \$50,000 every year. Alternatively, our organization could consider a slight increase to annual dues to assist in covering increased expenses.

In order to support annual meeting hosts and allow them to concentrate on the scientific quality of our annual meetings, and *not* on making a large profit, the Board has decided to propose to the membership a modest annual dues increase, from \$50 to \$60 for full members. Other membership categories will not be affected. This potential increase will be voted upon at the next annual Business meeting in Phoenix in October 2008.

As many of you are aware, S.O.F.T. dues have not been increased since 1994. As I am sure you will agree, nothing has stayed the same price for 14 years....and as I have noted above, the expenses for the organization have increased substantially since then. Please consider what you receive from S.O.F.T. (ToxTalk, high quality low cost annual meetings, on-line convenience for dues and registrations etc.) and approve this moderate raise.

Often I have heard it said that S.O.F.T. has "lots of money".

Indeed, I believed it myself until I was a member of the Board and became Treasurer. For clarity, the ERA fund contains approximately \$176,000 at the time of writing. We are forbidden by the by-laws to use anything but the interest on this money, and that only for funding ERA and YSMA awards (or other educational projects as the Board approves). There is a further \$50,000 in a reserve fund, just in case one of the annual meetings is affected by an unforeseen disaster (remember 9/11).

While S.O.F.T. is certainly in good financial shape, the re-appointed Long-Term Strategic Planning Committee have been charged with developing a long-term budget, as well as putting forward ways for improving the overall financial position of the organization. In further support of long-term planning efforts, I have appointed Vice-President Tony Costantino to assemble an ad-hoc Meeting Guidelines Committee to revise the guidelines for meeting hosts, to include the requirement for specified profits from each annual meeting, among other issues.

Finally, the deadline for the SOFT/JAT Special issue is fast approaching, so I encourage you to send your manuscripts to our Editor for this year, Dan Anderson.

I thank you for your loyal membership and hope you will consider the information provided in forming your vote in October. Best wishes to all.

Christine

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by Bradford Hepler, Ph.D., DABFT

Table 1 summarizes the 2006 and 2007 ending balances from bank statements for the 2007 tax year. The net operational increase / decrease is the same as derived from the 2007 SOFT Organizational Income / Expenses Report detailed in Table 2.

This accounting is a tabulation of all activities relative to income and outgo during 2007. There are three informational footnotes relative to Table 2.

1. *SOFT Dues and Subscriptions are a compilation of proceeds that exceed the 2007 year of collection i.e. in part come from previous year(s).

2. **Meeting Proceeds are compiled from meeting proceeds and meeting expenses paid from the operational account with the exception of annual meeting account seed monies which are carried as a separate expense line item.

3. ***Meeting Expenses for 2007 are the combined seed monies for the 2008 annual meeting and the TIAFT 2007 meeting administrative support expenses.

The "net" operational income is a reflection of all three SOFT organizational funds. The overall increase in operational funds between year end 2006 and 2007 is essentially a reflection of Dues and Subscription funds received in 2007.

Submitted,

Bradford R. Hepler, Ph.D., SOFT Treasurer

Table 2: 2007 SOFT Organizational Income/Expense Report

INCOME	2007 ACCOUNT TOTALS
AMEX Account	782.39
Bankcard Account	4,066.34
SOFT Application Fees	2,453.00
SOFT Dues & Subscriptions*	56,110.81
Late Fees (Dues)	210.00
ERA Donations	918.00
Meeting Proceeds**	50,218.90
Address Labels	500.00
Mugs/Shirts/Memorabilia Sales	1,547.00
Postage Revenue	96.00
Reimbursed CE Seed Money Expenses	2,810.00
ToxTalk Subscription	75.00
Interest Earned ERA Fund	6,466.06
Interest Earned Reserve Fund	1,845.63
Income Misc.	50.00
TOTAL	128,149.13
.....	
EXPENSES	
AAFS Midyear Meeting Expenses	847.70
AAFS SOFT Night out	6,379.16
AMEX Account Maintenance	73.50
Bankcard Account Maintenance	175.04
Bank Service Charges	218.10
Contract Labor	195.00
ERA/YSMA Awards	9,000.00
Internet Account Maintenance	59.70
Insurance	542.00
JAT Meeting issue	14,850.00
Lease SOFT Office Space	4,545.53
Meeting Expenses***	6,553.31
Office Supplies	5,329.99
Payroll Expenses	20,369.57
Postage/Shipping Expenses	354.61
Professional Fees- Accountant	4,874.30
Refund Payments	303.01
Registration of SOFT Logo	308.66
SOFT Logo Items Expenses	2,252.70
SOFT Officers / Committee Expenses	4,850.02
Software Programing	5,433.10
State of DE: Incorporation Expenses	254.50
Telephone	673.12
ToxTalk	13,917.40
Website	2,999.22
TOTAL	105,359.24
.....	
Net/(Loss) Income	22,789.89

Table 1: SOFT 2007 Organizational Funds

SOFT Funds	Ending Balance Dec 31, 2006	Ending Balance Dec 31, 2007	Net Operational Increase/(Decrease)
Operational Fund: SOFT Checking Account	101,309.24	122,510.44	21,201.20
ERA Fund	176,384.75	176,133.81	(250.94)
Reserve Fund	51,029.76	52,869.39	1,839.63
Totals	328,723.75	351,513.64	22,789.89

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES OF THE *Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.—October 17, 2007*

Submitted by Anthony Costantino, Ph.D., DABFT

The Annual Business meeting of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc., (SOFT) was held on October 17, 2007 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel Raleigh Durham, NC. President Diana Wilkins requested that the Secretary establish a quorum. A quorum of greater than 68 full and retired members was present. President Wilkins called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm. Upon a motion duly made, seconded and passed, the agenda was approved. By a motion duly made, seconded and passed, the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc., of October 2006 as published in *ToxTalk*, were approved by acclamation.

President's Report: Diana Wilkins, Ph.D. President Wilkins expressed her pleasure and gratitude for serving as the 2007 President of SOFT. She thanked the membership for the opportunity. She noted that during the year SOFT has expanded its support of various educational activities. Five Educational Research Awards and 4 Young Scientist Meeting Awards were provided in 2007. Another sponsored educational activity earlier in the week was the first SOFT Student Enrichment Program (SSEP), in which interested high school, college and graduate students were offered the opportunity to learn more about forensic toxicology in various practice settings. The program included both didactic lectures and laboratory tours. She expressed her hope that the SSEP would become a permanent part of the annual program.

Dr. Wilkins recognized the Special Issue of the *Journal of Analytical Toxicology* and noted that SOFT is in its 27th year of collaboration with Preston Publications. She thanked and acknowledged Dr. Sarah Kerrigan for ensuring another high quality Special Edition issue while serving as this year's Guest Editor.

Dr. Wilkins introduced a new ad hoc committee that was formed in 2007. This committee is named the Strategic Planning Committee and is comprised of SOFT members with financial expertise, whose charge it is to provide advice on the development of long range planning goals and budget for SOFT. She thanked Brad Hepler for agreeing to serve as the first Chair of this committee.

Dr. Wilkins regrettably informed the membership of the passing of retired SOFT member Roger Maickel. She expressed condolences to his wife Lois, as well as his other family members and friends. She called for a moment of silence.

Dr. Wilkins next acknowledged Jeri Miller, Ruth Winecker (meeting hosts), Vickie Watts (meeting coordinator) and Lisa O'Dell

(vendor liaison) for their tremendous efforts and the success of the 2007 meeting. She also encouraged the membership to visit and thank the exhibitors for their valuable support of the meeting's activities.

Finally, Dr. Wilkins encouraged the membership to become more active in SOFT.

Secretary's Report: Anthony Costantino, Ph.D. Secretary Costantino thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve SOFT in this capacity over the past two years. He also thanked Bonnie Fulmer from the SOFT Office for her support.

Treasurer's Report: Brad Hepler, Ph.D. Treasurer Hepler thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve SOFT in this capacity. He also thanked Bonnie Fulmer for organizing the financial records at the SOFT office.

As of September 30, 2007 the Society has an operational budget of \$161,050.53, the Reserve Fund contains \$52,741.84 and the ERA Fund has \$183,587.36. The amount of interest earned to date is as follows: Reserve Fund: \$1718.08 and the ERA Fund \$5994.61.

SOFT hired Martin Halloran, CPA to review The SOFT financial statements and to advise the organization on an ongoing basis.

Vice President's and Committee Reports: Christine Moore, Ph.D.

Vice President Moore called on the committee chairs to give their reports:

A. Bylaws, Yale Caplan, Ph.D.

There were no specific actions this year. The Bylaws were converted to a Word document and distributed to the BOD. Dr. Caplan also noted that the first meeting of the group that became SOFT met in 1974 at a site very close to the site of the 2007 meeting. He asked any Business Meeting attendees who were present at the 1974 meeting to stand. This group was recognized by the other attendees with a round of applause.

B. Budget, Finance, & Audit, Robert Turk, Ph.D. The committee members include Dr. Turk, Dr. Diana Garside, Dr. George Jackson, Dr. Michael Schaffer and Dr. Dean Fritch. Dr. Turk reported that the committee is awaiting the internal audit by Mr. Halloran for review. The committee has several recommendations: that a CPA reviews the finances, that the financial statement be shared with the membership before the meeting, and that the records be consolidated at one physical location.

C. Membership, Anthony Costantino, Ph.D. Dr. Costantino informed the membership that the current committee members were Dr. Peter Stout, Dr. Rebecca Jufer-Phipps and Ms. Jennifer Limoges. The membership of SOFT totaled 891,

inclusive of 647 Full Members, 167 Associate Members, 14 Charter Members, 14 Retired Charter, 25 Retired, and 24 Student members. Application and promotion forms are available on the SOFT web site.

D. ToxTalk, Yale Caplan, Ph.D. / Vickie Watts Dr. Caplan reported that four issues were produced in a new format since the last quarter for 2006. He thanked Vickie Watts as co-editor and Bonnie Fulmer for her support in the actual publishing and distribution of the publication. He also thanked the Section Editors. The expenses are approximately \$3000 per issue.

E. JAT Special Issue, Sarah Kerrigan, Ph.D. Special issue editor, Dr. Kerrigan thanked Dr. Wilkins for the opportunity. A total of 17 manuscripts were submitted. She thanked the colleagues, members and friends who volunteered their valuable time to review the submissions.

F. Education Research Award and Young Scientist Meeting Award, Philip Kemp Ph.D. Dr. Kemp reported that the committee received 5 ERA and 4 YSMA applications this year. The ERA awardees are Amy Cadwallader (University of Utah), Erin Kolbrich (National Institute of Drug Abuse), Michele Merves (University of Florida), Cody Peer (West Virginia University) and Sandeep Sunny Rodhey (Pace University). The Young Scientist Meeting Awards were distributed. The recipients were Sara Kegler (LA County Coroner), Henry Swofford (Georgia Bureau of Investigation), Tor Selden (National Board of Forensic Medicine, Sweden) and Brienne Brown (Center for Human Toxicology).

G. Meeting Resource Committee

2007 Raleigh Durham, NC Meeting Hosts Ruth Winecker and Jeri Roper Miller thanked SOFT and the membership for a successful meeting.

2008 Phoenix, AZ Meeting Hosts Vickie Watts and Norm Wade presented. The meeting dates are October 27-31. The meeting will be held at the Pointe South Mountain Resort.

Future meeting sites and hosts are:
2009 Oklahoma City, OK - Philip Kemp
2010 Richmond, VA - Michelle Peace and Lisa Tarnai Moak
2011 San Francisco, CA - Nikolas Lemos
2012 Boston, MA - Mike Wagner

H. Laboratory Guidelines, Lee Hearn, Ph.D. There was no current activity to report. Dr. Hearn invited the membership to offer comments and suggestions. The committee met during the SOFT meeting.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

I. Drugs and Driving Committee.

Sarah Kerrigan, Ph.D.

The committee is comprised of three sub committees: The Website Committee, Laboratory Guidelines Committee and the Training and Outreach Committee. The DUID website project is the committee's most immediate task at present. A workshop entitled "Toxicology Jeopardy": A Practical Approach to DUID Testing was held at the SOFT 2007 meeting. Drugs and Driving Special Sessions have been scheduled by Michele Spirk at the SOFT 2007 and AAFS 2008 meetings.

J. Policies and Procedures.

William Anderson, Ph.D.

Dr. Anderson reported that all minutes have been abstracted since the last annual meeting. The Policy and Procedures Manual has been reviewed to insure that it is current. Copies of the manual will be available to Board Members who would like a hard copy.

K. Web-site. Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D.

No report was given.

L. Continuing Education Committee.

Ann Marie Gordon.

Ms. Gordon reported that the Joint Continuing Education Committee/Drugs and Driving Committee "Interpretive DUID Workshop" was hosted by Jennifer Limoges, May 22-24, 2007 in Albany NY. Two Continuing Education Committee workshops occurred at the 2007 meeting: "Benzodiazepines: The Basics and Beyond and "Toxicology Jeopardy"- A practical Approach to DUID Testing.

M. Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault Committee.

Marc LeBeau, Ph.D.

Dr. LeBeau reported that the committee has been very active. There are three subcommittees. The Education and Outreach Subcommittee has been working on a draft FACT sheet and will be published on the website in the near future. The information will be available to the membership and others such as law enforcement. The Research Subcommittee is compiling the number of DFSA cases that have been submitted to the committee. The newest initiative is to take the survey that is available on the website and to make it an electronic download. The Guidance Subcommittee which is trying to develop standardized procedures that will allow laboratories to achieve the recommended detection limits for analysis in DFSA cases.

N. Ethics Committee. Aaron Jacobs, Ph.D.

There is no activity to report.

O. MS/MS Guidelines Committee.

John Cody, Ph.D.

The committee is continuing to work on and discuss proposed guidelines. The approach will be segmented by analytical method. The first methodology considered was that of targeted analysis using selected reaction monitoring MS-MS. Subsequently the analysis of unknowns using spectral analysis will be discussed. The committee has

developed a proposal for targeted analysis and is in the final stages of detailing related definitions and clarifications.

P. Strategic Planning Committee.

Brad Hepler, Ph.D.

The committee was established in 2006 as an ad hoc committee by President Wilkins. The mandate of this committee is to provide advice on the development of long term planning goals and budget to the organization. The other members of the committee are Laurel Farrell, Robert Zettl, Dennis Crouch and Daniel Isenschmid. The committee met in June at the SOFT Office where the records of the organization are being consolidated. Financial records from 1998 to present have been consolidated. The committee will continue to work on a long term business plan.

Q. Nominating Committee.

Timothy Rohrig, Ph.D.

The nominating committee consisted of Timothy Rohrig (chair), Rod McCutcheon and Jennifer Limoges.

Nominees for 2008 were:

Christine Moore, President
 Tony Costantino, Vice-President
 Sarah Kerrigan, Secretary
 Dan Anderson, Director 3-year Term
 Dwain Fuller, Director 3-year Term
 Peter Stout, Director, 3-year Term

Liaison Reports: President Wilkins

AAFS: Jeri Miller, Ph.D.

The annual meeting will be held from February 18-23, 2008 in Washington, DC. There have been 80 submissions and more than 60 were accepted. There were nine workshop submissions. Several joint sessions are planned.

TIAFT: Daniel Isenschmid, Ph.D.

The 2008 meeting will be in Martinique in the French Caribbean June 2-8. The passing of Allan Curry was noted.

CAT: John Hughes, Ph.D.

There will be meeting in November in Monterrey and one in February in southern CA. Please monitor the website for details.

MATT: Don Frederick, Ph.D.

There will be a meeting in Dayton Ohio in the Spring of 2008.

ABFT: Yale Caplan, Ph.D.

There was a surge in the number of individuals who applied for ABFT certification due to the waiver of the application fee. Sixty-six applications were received. There are 9 new certificants.

FTCB: Amanda Jenkins, Ph.D.

Dr. Jenkins reminded the membership that FTCB offers certification in three areas: Forensic Alcohol, FUDT and Forensic Toxicology. There were three new certificants: Two in Alcohol and one in Forensic Toxicology.

SoHT: Christine Moore, Ph.D.

SoHT will meet in conjunction with TIAFT in Martinique. The SoHT meeting will occur on Tuesday June 3, 2008.

Unfinished Business: President Wilkins asked if there was any unfinished business. There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

Awards and Recognition

President Wilkins recognized the current meeting hosts and presented plaques to Ruth Wineker and Jeri Miller. Dr. Wilkins recognized and presented each ERA and YSMA winner with a plaque. Dr. Wilkins then thanked the outgoing officers and directors of SOFT and presented each of the following individuals with a plaque – Board of Directors; Phil Kemp, Ph.D., Sarah Kerrigan and Barry Logan (not present), Secretary, Anthony Costantino Ph.D.; Vice President, Christine Moore, Ph.D.

Christine Moore presented a plaque to Dr. Wilkins on behalf of SOFT in recognition of her served duties as President of the Society.

Nominations and Elections:

No nominations for SOFT Officers or Directors were received from the floor. Motions were made and seconded to accept the nominations for each position, as submitted by the Nominating Committee. All officers and directors were elected by acclamation. The newly elected 2008 SOFT Officers and Directors are as follows:

Christine Moore, President
 Anthony Costantino, Vice-President
 Sarah Kerrigan, Secretary
 Peter Stout, Director 3-year Term
 Dan Anderson, Director 3-year Term
 Dwain Fuller, 3-year Term

Incoming President's Remarks:

Newly elected President Christine Moore presented outgoing President Wilkins with a commemorative plaque on behalf of the members, in recognition of her service to SOFT. She continued by thanking the membership for electing her to the office of President. She is excited by the growth of the organization and is committed to helping more toxicologists become involved in the organization. She will continue to foster the sense of community within the organization and to promote the growth of educational opportunities. Dr. Moore announced that the guest editor for the next SOFT JAT Special Issue will be Dr. Dan Anderson.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony G. Costantino, Ph.D.
 SOFT Secretary, 2006-2007

Minutes subject to final adoption at the 2008 SOFT Annual Business Meeting.





SOFT 2008 ANNUAL MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona

October 27 – 31, 2008

Hosts: Vickie Watts / Norman Wade

Site: Arizona Grand Hotel (formerly the Pointe South Mountain)



WELCOME TO THE HOME OF SOFT 2008—PHOENIX, AZ

Welcome to the Home of SOFT 2008 – Phoenix, AZ

We extend a warm welcome to Phoenix, Arizona for the next annual meeting of S.O.F.T. during the last week of October. Phoenix is a premier destination for visitors in winter months because of its blue skies and warm climate. Arizona is famous for its indigenous saguaro cactus, plentiful golf courses, and beautiful deserts.

The site of the meeting is the Arizona Grand Hotel, formerly the Pointe South Mountain. The 164-acre property recently changed ownership and the 640 guest rooms are undergoing a 52 million dollar renovation that will be completed by the time S.O.F.T. meets in October 2008. Every guest room is a two-room suite, perfect to share expenses w/ a colleague, or to bring along the family for an extended vacation. Plans are underway to develop an interesting and unique scientific program for the SOFT 2008 attendees plus a fun social calendar to entertain all. Please make plans to attend the 2008 Meeting in Phoenix. You will enjoy bright sunny skies, stunning red rock bluffs, desert mountain ridges, swaying palm trees, impressive desert vistas and the classic, beautiful desert sunsets.

Weather

The remnants of a hot Arizona summer can last into October, but the average daytime high temperature during October is in the 80's. The Arizona Grand Hotel is a water oasis with multiple pools, an onsite water park and lazy river as well as many hot tubs and spas so you will want to bring the swim gear. The resort has two golf courses onsite and is located at the foothills of the South Mountain Park, which offers great hiking, mountain biking trails and horseback riding.

Hotel Accommodations

The meeting will be held at the Arizona Grand Hotel, formerly the Pointe South Mountain. Early hotel reservations at the S.O.F.T. Conference Rate of \$189 are encouraged. Call toll free 1-877-800-4888 to guarantee room availability at the meeting site. Meeting Registrations will become available on-line in April 2008 at the S.O.F.T. website (soft-tox.org).

Airport and Transportation

Sky Harbor International airport is located less than 10 minutes from the Arizona Grand Hotel making it easily accessible by taxicabs or shuttles. Parking is free at the resort so renting a car to travel and enjoy the sites of Arizona is highly recommended.

Explore the Arizona Southwest

The "Valley of the Sun" offers world-class shopping, critically acclaimed dining, impressive arts and cultural life and luxurious day spas on resort properties. Relax, refresh, and rejuvenate! Whether you enjoy active hiking, boating, cycling or golfing or you just want to chill by the pool, you'll find a lot to do in this friendly, eclectic city. Surrounded by the Arizona red rocks and southwest desert, Phoenix is home to a vast array of museums, galleries, a desert zoo and shops as well as local and state parks. Arizona is known for its excellent golf courses and two courses are on property at the Arizona Grand Resort. Also close by is the Legacy Golf Resort which is only a five-minute shuttle ride. If you want to travel to the famous Sedona Red Rocks it is only a two-hour drive and will be a trip you will always treasure. Sedona offers jeep rides up into the red rocks as well as a train ride on the Verde Valley Railway. The Grand Canyon is one of the natural wonders of the world and is only a five-hour drive from Phoenix but well worth the trip. Plan some extra leisure time when you visit because Arizona is a place you'll want to EXPLORE.

SOFT 2008 Committee Members

Vickie Watts, Meeting Co-Host - toxilady@cox.net

Norman Wade, Meeting Co-Host - nwade@mail.maricopa.gov

Erin Boone, Meeting Treasurer - eboone@azdps.gov

Ann Marie Gordon, Scientific Program Chair - anngor@comcast.net

Dan Anderson, Scientific Workshop Chair - DAnderson@coroner.lacounty.gov

Bruce Goldberger, SOFT Web-Master - Bruce-goldberger@ufl.edu

Doug Kramer, SOFT-2008 Website Developer - dkramer@tascaz.org

Jeri Roper-Miller, Exhibitor Liaison Specialist - jerimiller@rti.org

Peter Stout, Exhibitor Liaison Specialist - pstout@rti.org

Arizona Local Program Committee Members

Bonnie Fulmer	David Watts
Diane Mertens	Anil Solanky
Robert Herndon	Michelle Spirk
Greg Ohlson	Jennifer Valdez
Kim McCall	Donna Honey
Audra Brown	Amanda Gallegos



SOFT 2008 ANNUAL MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona

October 27-31, 2008

Hosts: Vickie Watts / Norman Wade

Site: Arizona Grand Hotel (formerly the Pointe South Mountain)



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Saturday, October 25, 2008

- Satellite Organization Meetings

Sunday, October 26, 2008

- Registration Opens (9:00am – 6:00pm)
- NLCP Inspector Training (2:00pm – 6:00pm)
- Dinner on your own

Monday, October 27, 2008

- Continental Breakfast (7:00am – 8:30am)
- Registration (7:00am – 6:00pm)
- SOFT Workshops (8:00am – 5:00pm)
- SOFT Student Enrichment Program (8:00am – 5:00pm)
- ABFT Exam Committee
- SOFT-AAFS Drugs and Driving Committee
- Tier-One Exhibitors Hospitality (6:30pm – 8:30pm)

Tuesday, October 28, 2008

- Continental Breakfast (7:00am – 8:30am)
- Registration (7:00am – 6:00pm)
- SOFT Workshops (8:00am – 5:00pm)
- SOFT Board Meeting (7:00am-12:00pm)
- ABFT Exam
- ABFT Accreditation Committee
- ABFT Board Meeting
- Exhibits Setup (12:00pm – 5:00pm)
- Exhibits Open (6:30pm – 8:00pm)
- Welcoming Reception (6:30pm – 8:00pm) (Reception in Exhibit Hall)
- Elmer Gordon Forum (8:00pm – 10:00pm)
- Nite Owl Reception (10:30pm – 12:30am)

Wednesday, October 29, 2008

- Continental Breakfast (7:30am – 9:00am)
- Registration (7:30am – 5:00pm)
- AAFS Steering Committee (9:00am – 10:00am)
- Exhibits open (7:30am – 3:30pm)
- Opening Ceremonies Plenary Session
- Scientific Sessions (8:30am – 12:00pm)
- Lunch with Exhibitors (12:00pm – 1:15pm)
- DFSA Committee Meeting (12:00pm – 1:15pm)
- Scientific Sessions (1:15pm – 5:00pm)
- Exhibitor's Happy Hour (5:00pm – 6:30pm)
- "Sunset at the Oasis" Poolside Reception (7:00pm – 10:00 pm)

Thursday, October 30, 2008

- SOFT Fun Run/Walk (6:30am – 8:00am)
- Continental Breakfast (7:30am – 9:00am)
- Registration (7:30am – 5:00pm)
- Exhibits open (7:30am – 1:30pm)
- Exhibitor Feedback Meeting (8:00am - 9:30pm)
- Scientific Session (8:30am – 12:00pm)
- Lunch with Exhibitors (12:00pm – 1:15pm)
- Exhibits Breakdown (1:30pm – 3:30pm)
- Scientific Session (1:15pm – 2:30pm)
- SOFT Business Meeting (3:00pm – 5:00pm)
- ABFT Certificate Reception Wine & Cheese
- Presidents Banquet and Masquerade Ball (6:30pm – 11:30pm)

Friday, October 31, 2008

- Continental Breakfast (7:30am – 9:00am)
- Scientific Session (9:00am – 12:00pm)
- NSC Executive Board (1:30pm – 3:30pm)



S.O.F.T. WORKSHOPS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 27—31, 2008



Submitted by Workshop Coordinator, Dan Anderson (danderson@coroner.lacounty.gov)

Title	Description	Chairs / Instructors	Length
<p style="text-align: center;">Excel Spreadsheet Design</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Excel Basic Statistics</p>	<p>This workshop is aimed at the PC user who is acquainted with Microsoft and with general PC commands. User must bring their own laptop PC with Excel 2003 or Excel 2007 AND a supplemental PC mouse control. The workshop will provide hands on working Knowledge of Excel layout and basic statistical analysis capabilities. The user will learn in Workshop I- Excel Spreadsheet Design, how to setup Excel sheets in a database format, master the basic commands including spreadsheet formatting, conditional formatting, data validation, data propagation, data sortation / filtering, build calculation expressions using function commands and how to execute pivot table analysis.</p> <p>The user will learn in Workshop II-Excel Basic Statistics how to identify data distributions and choosing the correct toll for statistical evaluation; Detect when transformation of data and advanced non-parametric analysis tools are needed; Differentiate between continuous and discrete data; Differentiate parametric from non-parametric data and select appropriate population parameter analysis tools.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Leland McClure, PhD Craig Sutheimer, PhD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Full Day Restricted to 20 Attendees</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Pharmacogenomics For Dummies</p>	<p>Pharmacodynamics (PD) can be defined as what a drug does to the body and pharmacokinetics (PK) as what the body does to the drug. Pharmacogenetics, on the other hand, could be defined as the genetics that controls both. To begin to understand how genetics can have an influence, one must have an understanding of basic genetics. This workshop will give participants a fundamental understanding of how genetic changes can alter protein structure, function, and expression level, and how those changes can lead to altered PK and PD. Finally, the question remains as to how and if genetic differences can be used in the interpretation of specific cases, and in particular, those with some relation to forensic toxicology.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Loralie Langman, PhD Michelle Spirk Michael Wagner, PhD <i>Stephen Wong, PhD</i> <i>Bruce Budowle, PhD</i> <i>Dennis O'Kane, PhD</i> <i>Spyro Mousses, PhD</i> <i>Wendell Weber, MD, PhD</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Full Day Restricted to 70 Attendees ARS units limitations</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Improving Productivity in Your Forensic Toxicology Laboratory By Utilization of Chemstation® Software & GC/MS Hardware Enhancements</p>	<p>This workshop in intended for current users of Chemstation Software®. The workshop will present topics of varying complexity that will provide attendees with tools to improve productivity within their own laboratory. Topics discussed will include installation and version issues of the software, how to perform full scan methods and selected ion monitoring methods, drug quantification, drug screening with retention time locking/AMDIS, use of 2-D GC/MS, post run data manipulation, report building and report outputs, and an introduction to drug screening macros. It is HIGHLY recommended to have some experience with Chemstation® before you attempt this rather aggressive workshop. All interested workshop participants are encouraged to send problems or desired solutions to the workshop chairs well in advance to facilitate problem solving. In addition PLEASE bring or send your ideas or solutions that work for you to share with your classmates. Computers, preloaded with all necessary software, will be provided to participants so they may receive hands-on training.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Chip Walls William Anderson, PhD <i>Jeanne Beno, PhD</i> <i>John Pellerin</i> <i>Fred Feyerherm</i> <i>Dwain Fuller</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Full Day Restricted to 80 Attendees</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Effects of Drugs on Human Performance and Behavior – A Borkenstein Sampler</p>	<p>In 2001, the Center for Studies of Law in Action at Indiana University, founded in the 1950's by Breathalyzer inventor Prof. Robert Borkenstein, began a program focusing on providing an intensive five day training opportunity covering the basics of drug pharmacology, including mechanisms of drug action and receptor chemistry, followed by sessions relating the fundamental pharmacological consequences of drug use to tangible effects on a subjects skills and abilities which are necessary for safe driving. This one day program is designed to give a flavor for what the weeklong course offers but also provides significant take home information on drugs and their effects on driving, and analytical toxicology issues relating to drug testing in impaired drivers. The Center's philosophy is to provide a diverse faculty in terms of their background and expertise, and mix didactic teaching with faculty interaction and Question and Answer/Discussion sessions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Barry Logan, PhD Robert Zettl <i>Lionel Raymon, PhD</i> <i>Marilyn Huestis, PhD</i> <i>Dan Isenschmid, PhD</i> <i>Joe Turner</i> <i>Laurel Farrell</i> <i>Bruce Goldberger, PhD</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Full Day</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Overview and Review of Forensic Toxicology</p>	<p>The practice of forensic toxicology covers wide and multidiscipline fields. Forensic toxicology includes drug and substance testing for performance enhancing such as athletics, performance impairment such as DUI/DUID, and post-mortem testing. While these fields are at times very different, they all have the same foundation in common. The workshop will provide an overview and review of these basic toxicology principles and practices. This workshop is designed for individuals with a few years of work experience or individuals who are looking for a review of forensic toxicology. The workshop will cover drug ADME, math and terminology used, instrumentation, and interpretation of results.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Carl Wolf, PhD Justin Poklis <i>Douglas Smith</i> <i>Alphonse Poklis, PhD</i> <i>Julia Pearson, PhD</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Full Day</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Naturally Occurring Pharmacologically Active Substances Native to the Southwest</p>	<p>The Arizona desert is part of the larger Sonoran ecosystem. Several native species of plants or animals have pharmacologically active substances present. Some of them are for defensive purposes and others are not. Some of these have been developed for medicinal purposes and others have been used recreationally. This workshop intends to investigate at least a couple of aspects common to both plant and animal sources.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Greg Ohlson Cindy Hogan <i>Alexander Shulgin, PhD</i> <i>Lynn Brown-Wagner, RN</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Half Day</p>

Title	Description	Chairs / Instructors	Length
Pain Management and Addiction	<p>Treating chronic pain patients is an ever increasing practice for physicians. The use of toxicology results of patients treated by pain management physicians provides valuable information for physicians to manage patients and aid them in determining patient compliance, help identify drug abuse, and potential drug diversion. The DEA is also active in monitoring the use of prescription drugs by pain management physicians to control abuse and diversion of prescription drugs. It is estimated that 15.1 million people admit abusing prescription drugs which is more than the combined number who admit cocaine, hallucinogens, inhalant and heroin abuse. Toxicology laboratories are asked more and more to test for several prescription drugs used in pain management outside of the normal scope of workplace drug testing panels. This ever increasing demand on toxicology laboratories presents new operational and technical challenges in drug testing. This workshop is designed to better understand this rapidly growing drug testing demand on toxicology laboratories.</p> <p>Neuropharmacology of addiction and pain mechanisms will be presented. The treatment of pain and use of toxicology results from the viewpoint of the physician will be presented. Analytical toxicology methods and case studies will also be discussed as well as drug diversion and trafficking patterns.</p>	<p>Jim Bourland, PhD Erin Boone <i>Edward French, PhD</i> <i>Todd Vanderah, PhD</i> <i>Ronald Backer, PhD</i> <i>Denny Crouch</i> <i>Dan Anderson</i> <i>Richard Tucker</i></p>	Full Day
Critical Flicker Fusion Confusion	<p>This SOFT/AAFS Drugs & Driving Committee workshop will focus on laboratory, driving simulator, and on-the-road studies conducted to measure drug effects on human performance. Forensic toxicologists have a number of "tools" available to them when evaluating a drug's potential effect on human performance, one of which are the behavioral research studies published in the scientific literature. In order to properly evaluate a publication and to give it the proper weight in an interpretation, a toxicologist must be able to answer the following questions. How are these studies conducted? What aspect(s) of human performance is each test measuring? What are the pros and cons of a laboratory study, a simulator study or an on-the-road study in measuring human performance? How well does the research relate to real world driving situations? Experts that conduct laboratory, simulator, and on-the-road research studies will provide some answers to these questions. Future work in the field of behavioral research and drugged driving will also be discussed.</p>	<p>Jennifer Limoges Laurel Farrell <i>Jan Ramaekers, PhD</i> <i>Miriam Mintzer, PhD</i> <i>Anthony Liguori, PhD</i> <i>Marilyn Huestis, PhD</i></p>	Half Day
Applications of LC-MS in Human and Veterinary Toxicology	<p>During the last few years liquid chromatography – mass spectrometry (LC/MS) became an important analytical tool available to forensic toxicologists. This workshop will provide a general overview of LC/MS followed by interesting applications of LC/MS in human antemortem and postmortem toxicology including detection of erectile dysfunction drugs, several benzodiazepines and their major metabolites, as well as the detection of EDTA in "planted" blood stains. In addition, the applications of LC/MS to detection of human recombinant EPO and anabolic steroids in race horses will be discussed.</p>	<p>Adam Negrusz, PhD Sara Kegler <i>Crystal Holt</i> <i>Marc LeBeau, PhD</i> <i>Brandi Bellissima</i> <i>Cornelius Uboh, PhD</i> <i>Heather Antonides</i></p>	Half Day
Overview of Biomarkers of Alcohol Testing: Emerging Trends and Foreseen Applications	<p>The standardized field sobriety tests (SFSTs) and the measurements of blood alcohol are the common methods for the detection of alcohol use and abuse. Newer tests for carbohydrate-deficient transferrin (CDT), ethylglucuronide (EtG) and the early detection of alcoholol consumption (EDAC) test are additional biomarkers. These tests can be applied to detection and monitoring compliance in intoxicated drivers and impaired professionals. This workshop will utilize case studies for the optimal interpretation of laboratory data from these tests.</p>	<p>Donald Frederick, PhD Pamela Bean, PhD <i>Charles Pate, PhD</i> <i>James Harasymiw, MD</i> <i>Hank George</i></p>	Half Day
The "Stimulating" Realm of Sympathomimetic Amines and Tryptamines	<p>The SOFT Continuing Education Committee is offering a half-day workshop on sympathomimetic amines and hallucinogenic tryptamines. This particular class of stimulants encompasses a wide range of drugs including over-the-counter (OTC) cold remedies, prescription medications for Attention Deficit Disorder, and illicit drugs abused at parties and raves. Because of their prevalence, these stimulants are commonly encountered in DUI and post-mortem laboratories. The purpose of this workshop is to address the pharmacology as well as the analytical methods used to detect the sympathomimetic amines and tryptamines. Also, the prevalence of these drugs in society will be demonstrated through a series of case studies including those involving OTC medications, methamphetamine, MDMA, other hallucinogenic amines, and the tryptamines.</p>	<p>Chris Chronister, PhD Diane Boland, PhD <i>Bruce Goldberger, PhD</i> <i>William Hearn, PhD</i> <i>Barry Logan, PhD</i></p>	Half Day
ISO 17025 Accreditation – What you need to know	<p>Accreditation of forensic laboratories is mandatory in a few states (New York, Texas, Oklahoma) and increasingly expected by clients of the laboratories and by the courts. For forensic toxicology laboratories, the choice of which accreditation program to use is limited. However, most programs either use ISO/IEC 17025 as a basis for laboratory accreditation, or embody the principles of those standards. ISO 17025 embodies the quality management principles of ISO 9000 and 9001 and the technical requirements of the old ISO 25 and applies to "testing and calibration laboratories". The original concept was to make sure that standards existed for measurement of physical parameters (e.g. length, weight, time, electricity), and chemical analysis (e.g. environmental and toxicology testing) that could be applied and accepted internationally. Of necessity, the ISO 17025 standards have been written in a very general manner, so that they can be applied to a very wide range of calibration and testing laboratories.</p> <p>The goal of this workshop is to provide a general overview of the ISO 17025 standards, explain how they may be applied in the context of a forensic toxicology laboratory, and how the inspection / accreditation process generally operates.</p>	<p>Graham Jones, PhD Laurel Farrell <i>William Tilstone, PhD</i> <i>Marc LeBeau, PhD</i> <i>Jennifer Limoges</i></p>	Half Day

WHAT TO SEE WHILE VISITING ARIZONA

Meeting attendees will find Arizona to be full of diverse and exhilarating attractions. Phoenix, and the “Valley of the Sun”, is the nation’s fifth largest city has more than 300 days of sunshine a year. October through April are prime months to visit, when the daily temperatures are in the 70’s. This article will try to highlight many varied destinations within the local Metropolitan area as well as within the beautiful state of Arizona that visitors will find most captivating. The internet site www.azcentral.com is a wonderful source of more detailed information.



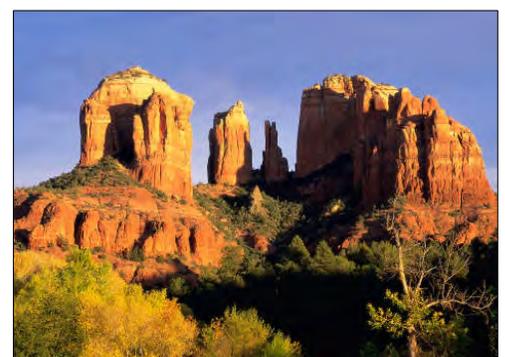
The **Grand Canyon, South Rim**, is the #1 most visited attraction in Arizona, only a four hour drive North from Phoenix and open 365 days a year. Tours are available daily, some in combination with a hike or mule ride down for an overnight stay. Some visitors select a helicopter or white water river rafting expedition to experience a more exhilarating visit. Some choose to take a walk on the new glass bottom Skywalk or to ride the Grand Canyon Railway there.

Open Road Tours offers S.O.F.T. visitors a 10% discount off the 2007 (enclosed) brochure prices for any regularly scheduled tours between October 22 through November 7, 2008. To receive the 10% discounted rate, reference the “SOFT” code. Reservations must be made before October 15, 2008.

Samples of “Open Road Tours” 1-day options:

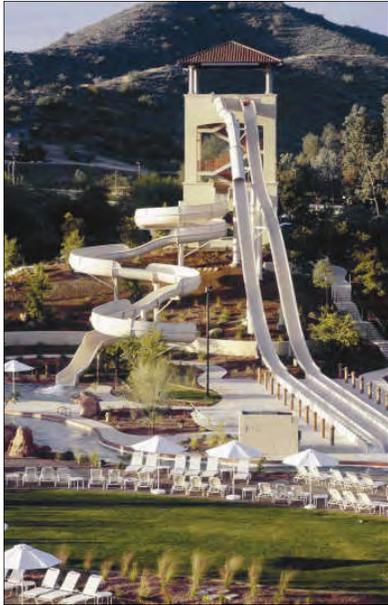
- Grand Canyon Day Tour: \$140
- Grand Canyon w/ helicopter flight: \$265
- Sedona Day Tour: \$90, w/ jeep tour: \$140
- Phoenix/Valley Area Highlights Tour: \$45
- Apache Trail w/ Canyon Lake Steamboat: \$90
- Verde Canyon Train w/ Jerome stop: \$139

Sedona is another paramount scenic destination in Arizona, only a two hour drive North from Phoenix, with indescribable beauty. Visitors simply feel privileged to experience the gorgeous red rock mountains, colorful foliage of the oak tree forests, and the sparkling waters of Oak Creek. The area offers recreational activities including hiking, biking, horseback riding, hot air balloon rides, jeep tours, helicopter views, fishing, swimming, etc. The town of Sedona also boasts of its world-class resorts, and exquisite arts & crafts. Anywhere you turn your steering wheel in Sedona could be considered a scenic drive.



WHAT TO SEE WHILE VISITING ARIZONA

The S.O.F.T. 2008 Annual Conference will be held at the Arizona Grand Resort, located at the base of South Mountain, the largest municipal park in the nation (11 miles across). A 30 minute drive



from the resort, up a scenic winding mountain road, to **Dobbins Point Lookout** allows visitors to view the entire valley and surrounding mountain ranges. This Mountain Preserve is an excellent place to hike, bike, or ride horses. Many trails are available to accommodate all skill levels.



The “valley” has over 200 golf courses, many 24 hour casinos, countless gourmet restaurants, unique art galleries, and lots of outdoor recreational choices. You may want to spend some time relaxing around the resort’s many heated swimming pools, or enjoy the quiet, private balcony views from your hotel suite.

Nearby visitor attractions just minutes away, and inexpensive to enjoy:

- The Heard Museum** – Collections of Native American art and historical exhibits.
- Heritage Square** – Collection of historic buildings dating back to the 1880’s.
- Arizona Science Center** – Interactive (changing) educational exhibits, IMAX theatre, Planetarium.
- Phoenix Museum of History** – Interactive and educational exhibits about the early history of Phoenix.
- Phoenix Art Museum** – Collections include European, Asian, Latin, Contemporary, and American Art and Fashions.
- Phoenix Zoo** – Large zoo with exhibits that replicate the natural habitats of the animals. - Papago Park
- Botanical Gardens** – 50 acres of exhibits showcasing one of the world’s finest collections of desert plants. - Papago Park

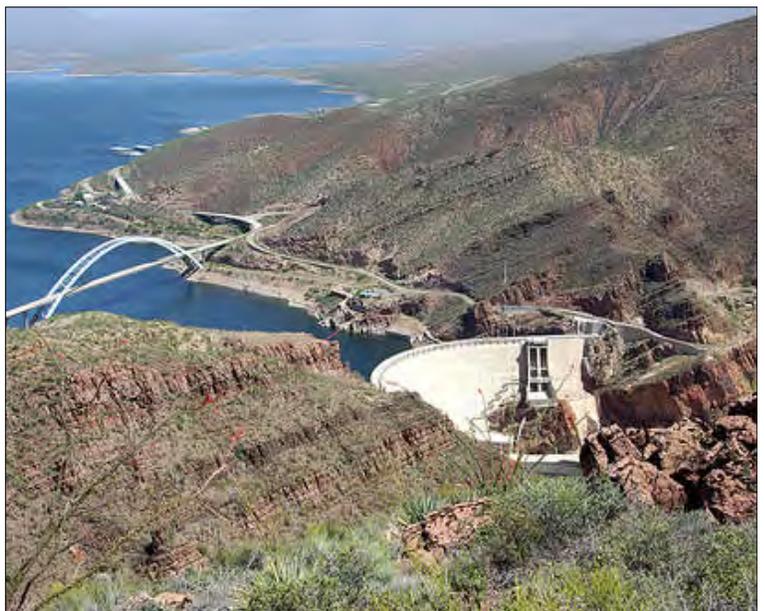
Other interesting Out of Town attractions:

Take a scenic 48 mile drive up the Apache Trail (State Route 88) to the chain of man-made lakes (**Canyon Lake, Apache Lake, and Roosevelt Lake**)



along the Salt River NE of Phoenix. A great half or day long drive with opportunities to picnic, rent boats, hike and explore.

A further drive south beyond Tucson (2-1/2 hr drive from Phoenix) will get you to the **Kartchner Caverns**, an underground “living cave”. Intricate formations continually grow as water seeps, drips, and flows from the walls. Ranger guided tours require reservations.



Roosevelt Dam Bridge from the Apache Trail, SR 88

ABFT NEWS

American Board of Forensic Toxicology, Inc. (www.abft.org)
ABFT is accredited by the Forensic Specialities Accreditation Board
 Yale H. Caplan, Ph.D., DABFT, President

ABFT Certification is available internationally. The next ABFT Examination for Diplomates and Specialists is scheduled for Tuesday, October 28, 2008 during the S.O.F.T. Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. ABFT questions may be sent to: abftox@aol.com.

After serving 20 years as President, Yale H. Caplan, Ph.D., DABFT will be stepping down and has recently been elected as President of the Forensic Specialities Accreditation Board. At the last Board Meeting, Dr. Kurt Dubowski, one of the founding Directors and the Board's first President, presented President Caplan with a Cardinal's Cap in recognition of Yale's long service as "President" of the "College of Cardinals".

Congratulations to the new Directors of ABFT, elected or re-elected, for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011.

- Yale Caplan, Ph.D., DABFT
- Daniel Isenschmid, Ph.D., DABFT
- Joseph Manno, Ph.D., DABFT
- Elizabeth Spratt, M.S., DABFT

Congratulations to the new Officers of ABFT, elected for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

- Marina Stajic, Ph.D., DABFT
President
- Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D., DABFT
Vice-President
- Dan Isenschmid, Ph.D., DABFT
Secretary
- Robert Middleberg, Ph.D., DABFT
Treasurer

Congratulations to the new ABFT Certificants:

- Terry J. Danielson, Ph.D., DABFT
- Robert H. Powers, Ph.D., DABFT
- Dustin T. Yeatman, M.S., FTSABFT
- Nicholas B. Tiscione, B.S., FTSABFT
- Monica I. Fileger, M.S., FTSABFT
- Amy M. Scarafile, B.S., FTSABFT
- Patricia L. Small, B.S., FTSABFT
- Glenna C. Thomas, B.S., FTSABFT
- Linda L. Alvarado, B.S., FTSABFT
- Marvin Pietruszka, M.D., FTSABFT

There are currently 122 Diplomates, 48 Forensic Toxicology Specialists, and 37 Emeritus Diplomates recognized by the Board.

The Laboratory Accreditation Program, chaired by Graham Jones, Ph.D., DABFT, is continuously reviewing accreditation standards. There are currently 21 accredited laboratories. See web site, www.abft.org, for list.

SOFT 2008 EXHIBITOR INVOLVEMENT

The S.O.F.T. 2008 Planning Committee expects Phoenix to be a sell out meeting. Nearly every continuing exhibitor from previous conferences has committed to participation. Financial sponsorship from exhibitors is critical to maintaining our superior quality meetings, continued growth, excellent renown guest speakers, and low attendee registration costs. As is possible, please extend your appreciation and business toward our essential partners in business.



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 UTAK Laboratories
 United Chemical Technologies
 Varian, Inc.
 VertiQ Software
 Venture Labs
 Waters Corp.

S.O.F.T. CONTINUES THE STUDENT ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

SOFT will continue the Student Enrichment Program (SEP) as a regular part of the annual October meetings. The educational outreach program invites college students to participate in a one day forensic toxicology program to foster education among our future forensic scientists and to give students an educational opportunity they may not otherwise experience.

Half of the day, students will attend lectures from professionals in the forensic toxicology field. The second part of the program, students are invited to tour two laboratories. The Maricopa County Medical Examiner's Forensic Science Center and the Phoenix Police Department Crime Laboratory will host the students during the upcoming 2008 meeting. Demonstrations and "hands-on" experiments will be coordinated by staff from the Phoenix Crime Laboratory and Arizona Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory.

A nice lunch is provided to the students, as well as ID badges,

memorabilia from the meeting, and a certificate of attendance at the conclusion of the program.

Students are responsible for providing their own transportation to the meeting site (Arizona Grand Resort). All other costs associated with the day-long event will be covered by private sponsors. Proceeds from last year's SOFT Silent Auction will financially sponsor this educational event, along with several other sponsoring companies, to include TASC, Inc. of Arizona (Treatment Assessment Screening Centers), the Maricopa County Medical Examiner's Office, and United Chemical Technologies.

The SEP will notify faculty and students from Arizona colleges and universities of this unique regional educational opportunity. Participating students are chosen via application process. Students demonstrating high academic achievement in the sciences can apply, many times prompted to do so by their professors. Appli-

cations can be downloaded from the SOFT web-site (soft-tox.org) and the SOFT 2008 Meeting web-site (soft2008.org). The application includes submission of a short essay statement from the student expressing their interest and experience in the forensic sciences and a teacher recommendation. The SEP committee will review all applications and contact the most qualified applicants with an invitation to attend.

*SSEP Coordinator:
Jeri Ropero-Miller, RTI Int'l
Contact: 919-485-5685
jerimiller@rti.org*

- **Application Period:
May 1, 2008 to Sept. 30, 2008**
- **Applications Available from:
www.soft-tox.org
soft2008.org
jerimiller@rti.org**
- **Acceptance Notification:
October 10, 2008**

THANK YOU E.R.A. CONTRIBUTORS

S.O.F.T. has long sponsored an Educational Research Award (ERA) to encourage studies in Forensic Toxicology, and additionally a second similar program called the Young Scientist Meeting Award (YSMA) targeting graduate students and young scientists.

The listed names are the generous S.O.F.T. members who have individually donated small (and large) amounts of funds in 2008 to honor and encourage young scientists to explore the field of Toxicology.



William Anderson
David Andrenyak
Timothy Appel
Fred Apple

Cheri Baird
Michael Baylor
David Black
Stuart Bogema

Donna Bush
Paula Childs
William Closson
Ed Cone
Anthony Costantino
Leo Dal Cortivo
Tim Eastly
Laurel Farrell
Bradford Hepler
Donald Hoffman
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Elizabeth Marker
Maria Martinez
Samuel Mathews
Joel Mayer
J. Rod McCutcheon
Richard McGarry
Michael McGee
Diane Mertens-Maxham
John Mitchell
Madeline Montgomery
Adam Negrusz
Miranda Nolan
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Jeri Ropero-Miller
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Robert Simon
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Vina Spiehler
Elizabeth Spratt
Craig Sutheimer
Robert Turk
Lowell Van Berkomp
Karl Verebey
Susan Vondrak
Wen-Ling Wang
Vickie Watts
Robert White
J. Robert Zettl



DRUGS IN THE NEWS

Submitted by Section Editor, Dwain Fuller, BS, D-FTCB, TC-NRCC

Please send interesting "Drugs In The News" to Section Editor, Dwain Fuller at dwain.fuller@med.va.gov

1,4-BUTANEDIOL & GHB

"I thought he was going to die. I didn't want to tell my kids that, of course, but I thought he was going to die." Those were the words of Shelby Esses, whose son Jack quickly fell unconscious after swallowing a handful of Spin Master Aqua Dots.⁽¹⁾

If you have been following the news, you are likely familiar with what happened here. You may have even had some calls from the media about this. For those who may have missed this story, this is the latest chapter in "toxic toys" from China, Aqua Dots[®]. Aqua Dots[®] is a toy that consists of small beads coated with a water-activated adhesive. The idea is to arrange the colored beads into the desired design then spray them with water to cause them to fuse together. However, a problem seems to lie in the adhesive. The adhesive is intended to contain 1,5-pentanediol, which is considered to be

non-toxic, but somehow the Aqua Dots[®] that little Jack Esses was playing with, as well as others on store shelves, contained instead 1,4-butanediol. Whether the substitution of 1,4-butanediol for 1,5-pentanediol, which cost approximately 5 times that of 1,4-butanediol, was simply a mistake or a calculated attempt to save money in production costs is a matter of speculation at this point.⁽¹⁾ What is known is that Aqua Dots[®] were quickly pulled from store shelves throughout the United States.

It has long been known that 1,4-butanediol (BD) is an analog to the popular recreational and "date-rape" drug, gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB). In fact BD is more than an analog, it is a pro-drug to GHB; rapidly metabolizing to GHB in the body. As such, understanding the pharmacodynamics of GHB are imperative to understanding BD intoxication.

Pharmacodynamics:

The clinical effects of BD are essentially indistinguishable from those of GHB and may be solely due to the GHB produced by BD's rapid metabolism. The effects of GHB are dizziness, alcohol-like inebriation, and sleep induction. At higher concentrations, vomiting, myoclonus, respiratory depression, coma and death may occur. The effects of GHB are short-lived and often resolve abruptly within a matter or a few hours. This along with its relative safety and widespread availability make it particularly well-suited as a date rape drug.⁽²⁾

However, because two metabolic steps are required to convert BD to GHB, the pharmacokinetics of BD differ somewhat from GHB and therefore merit special attention.

Pharmacokinetics:

In a very recent study involving 8 healthy adult volunteers administered a 25 mg/kg dose of BD, the following was observed: The average C_{max} for BD was 3.8 mg/L, approximately one tenth of that of GHB at 45.6 mg/L. For five of the eight subjects, measurable plasma GHB levels were present at the first specimen collection, 5 minutes after dosing. All subjects had measurable plasma levels of GHB 30 minutes after dosing. The elimination half-life for BD was 39.3 ± 11.0 min and 32.3 ± 6.6 min for GHB. Plasma concentrations of both BD and GHB were below the limit of quantitation of 1 mg/L by 4 hours after dosing.

Extensive conversion of BD to GHB was demonstrated, indicating that ingestion of BD is essentially equivalent to GHB intake. The prompt appearance of GHB in the plasma indicates rapid absorption and metabolism of BD occurring after oral ingestion. Compared to a previous study of GHB by the same authors, the T_{max} for GHB was somewhat greater than that observed for GHB due to the metabolism of administered BD in this study (57.2 ± 12.5 versus 39.4 ± 11.2 min, respectively). This may be due to the fact that GHB is a carboxylic acid with greater polarity than the neutral aliphatic alcohol, BD, and hence gastrointestinal absorption of GHB is likely to be slower than that of BD.

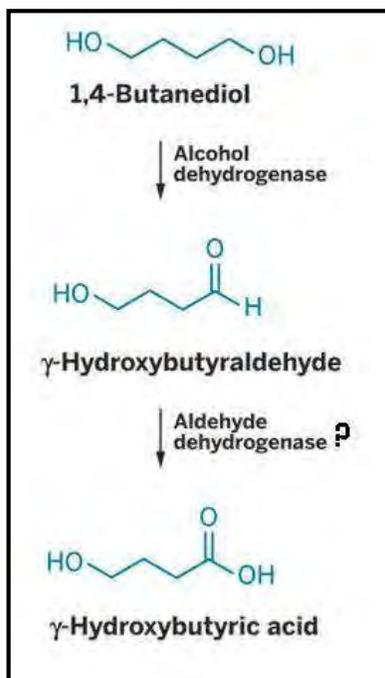
The rate of metabolism of BD was found to be variable and to correlate with the ADH-IB genotype. Four subjects had high GHB:BD AUC ratios of 80-100, indicative of rapid metabolism of BD to GHB, and



DRUGS IN THE NEWS (CONTINUED)

four subjects had low AUC ratios ranging from 8 to 17. Three of the four individuals with lower GHB:BD AUC ratios were Asian, suggesting possible genetic-based differences in BD metabolism. Genotyping for a well-known ADH-IB G143A single nucleotide polymorphism was performed which revealed an interesting correlation. Three of four subjects with variant alleles (GA and AA) had greater C_{max} and lower CL/F values for BD than subjects with wild-type (CG) variants. This finding is discordant with the well-described association of G143A variant genotype with 40-fold increase in ethanol metabolism.

The authors suggest several possibilities for this observation. Variant ADH enzymes may have altered substrate affinity for diols such as BD, which can cyclize, versus straight-chain alcohols. Although ADH-mediated metabolism is rate limiting in ethanol metabolism, it may be that the second step conversion of γ -hydroxybutyraldehyde to GHB is the rate-limiting step for BD. It is also possible that another pathway exists for the elimination of BD. Support for this hypothesis comes from some animal data showing that metabolism of BD to GHB occurs in brain tissue independent of both ADH and aldehyde dehydrogenase. Furthermore, although ethanol blocks BD from metabolism by



ADH in liver cells, aldehyde and disulfiram failed to block the second step of conversion of γ -hydroxybutyraldehyde to GHB, suggesting that aldehyde dehydrogenase may not be involved in the formation of GHB from BD. This would suggest that the metabolic pathway of BD metabolism may not be identical to ethanol, as previously hypothesized.

Summary:

As long assumed, it appears the clinical effects of BD are indistinguishable from those of GHB, and

are likely to be solely the result of metabolic production of GHB from BD. However, the pharmacokinetics for BD are not yet fully understood. The data would suggest that the T_{max} for GHB when derived from the ingestion of BD is shorter than when ingesting GHB alone, perhaps due to more rapid absorption of BD from the GI tract. Furthermore, because the first step in the metabolic process of converting BD to GHB, conversion of BD to γ -hydroxybutyraldehyde, is mediated by ADH, the concomitant use of ethanol may slow the onset and extend the clinical symptoms of GHB intoxication.⁽³⁾

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TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Submitted by Ann Marie Gordon, M.S.

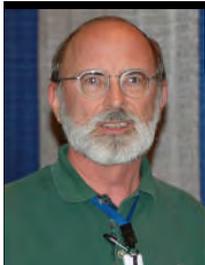
The SOFT Continuing Education Committee and SOFT / AAFS Drugs & Driving Committee are offering an Interpretive DUID Course sponsored by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office in West Palm Beach, Florida on May 6-8, 2008. This interactive workshop has been very popular, so book early. Complete details and registration information can be found on the SOFT website.

Attendance will be limited to 50 participants. Preference will be given to those whose current job duties involve expert testimony on the effects of drugs and driving and those in the state of Florida.

Pharmacology reviews of the major drug classes will be discussed based on real case examples. Drug classes reviewed include Marijuana, Stimulants (Cocaine, Amphetamines),

Depressants (Benzodiazepines, GHB, Carisoprodol, etc.), Opioids, and Polypharmacy Issues.

For additional information, please contact:
 Tate Yeatman
 Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
 3228 Gun Club Rd.
 West Palm Beach, FL 33406
 Phone: 561-688-4203
 Email: yeatmand@pbso.org



CASE NOTES

Submitted by Section Editor, Matthew Barnhill, Ph.D., DABFT

Please send interesting "Case Notes" to Section Editor, Matthew Barnhill, Ph.D. at mbarnhilljr@worldnet.att.net

TOXICOLOGICAL FINDINGS OF DICYCLOMINE AND MORPHINE IN A DECEASED CANCER PATIENT

Steven Fleming¹, C. Clinton Frazee¹, Uttam Garg¹, Leonard Johnson¹, Mary Dudley², Laura Knight², and Valerie Rao²
¹Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics and University of Missouri School of Medicine, Kansas City, Missouri
²Office of the Jackson County Medical Examiner, Kansas City, Missouri

Introduction

Dicyclomine is an anticholinergic and antispasmodic agent used to relieve smooth muscle spasms of the gastrointestinal tract. It is sold under the trade name Bentyl® and is available in 10 mg capsules, 20 mg capsules, syrup (10 mg/5 mL), and an aqueous solution for intramuscular injections (1). Dicyclomine has a



half-life of five hours. It can produce adverse effects such as dizziness, nausea, vomiting, dilated pupils, and difficulty

in swallowing (2). The concentration of dicyclomine and the symptoms associated with overdose (thought to be life threatening in adults) are not well defined. However, one study indicates a maximum peak plasma concentration of 80 ng/mL two hours after administration of a 40 mg sustained release tablet (2). Another study indicated a peak plasma concentration up to 60 ng/mL following three hourly 20 mg liquid doses (3). Dicyclomine fatalities are rare, and only a few cases have been reported in the literature, all involving infants.

Morphine is a commonly prescribed narcotic analgesic that is prescribed to suppress moderate to severe

pain. It produces adverse effects such as nausea, drowsiness, vomiting, hypothermia, apathy, respiratory depression, hypotension, coma, and pulmonary edema (2). In one study, cancer patients that received daily doses of morphine ranging from 60 – 180 mg were found to have a peak plasma concentration averaging 19 ng/mL (4).

We report, a case illustrating the pertinent postmortem toxicology and findings involving an ingestion of dicyclomine and morphine.

Case History and Findings

A 50 year old woman was discovered dead in the bed of her residence. The decedent's past medical history was notable for cervical cancer, osteoporosis, renal disease, chronic back/pelvic pain, and she recently had a colostomy. The decedent was prescribed dicyclomine and morphine pills. Six days had passed since both prescriptions were filled and 42 pills were missing from dicyclomine and 31 pills were missing from the morphine bottle.

Due to the extensive past medical history an external exam was performed instead of a complete autopsy. The cause of death was determined to be cervical carcinoma and the manner of death was reported as natural.

Postmortem Toxicology

Postmortem femoral blood and vitreous humor were submitted for toxicology analysis.

The analysis included a blood EIA screen for drugs of abuse, volatile screen by GC-FID, and a liquid-liquid extraction for alkaline drugs followed by GC-MS. The toxicology results are summarized below.

Serum HPLC

Acetaminophen 2.8 mcg/mL

Serum GC-NPD

Dicyclomine 280 ng/mL

Blood GC-FID

No volatiles detected (acetone, ethanol, methanol, isopropanol)

Blood (EIA)

Substance	Result
Amphetamine	Negative
Barbiturates	Negative
Benzodiazepines	Negative
Cannabinoids	Negative
Cocaine metabolite	Negative
Methadone	Negative
Opiates	Positive
Phencyclidine	Negative
Propoxyphene	Negative

Blood GC-MS*

Acetaminophen
Dicyclomine

*Qualitatively identified by RRT and MS

Blood GC-MS SIM

Codeine	<50 ng/mL
Hydrocodone	<50 ng/mL
Morphine	307 ng/mL

CASE NOTES #1 (CONTINUED)

Discussion

From the literature only three cases involving fatalities were found and only one case attributed the cause of death to an overdose of dicyclomine (3,5). The overdose case reported a dicyclomine concentration of 505 ng/mL. The other two cases reported dicyclomine concentration of 220 ng/mL and 200 ng/mL. The first of these two

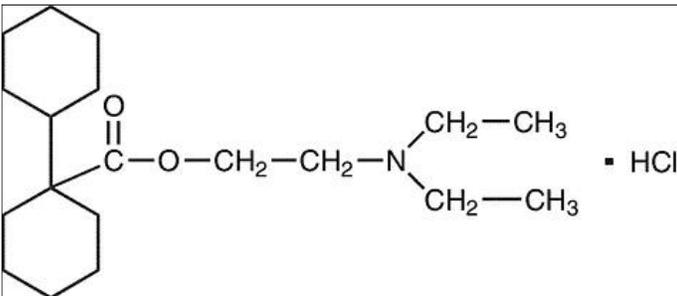
cases ruled the cause of death as undetermined and the later as sudden infant death syndrome. All three of these cases involved infants.

The femoral blood concentration of 280 ng/mL of dicyclomine in the presented case falls within the range of the three reported fatalities. Since this finding was in an adult with late stage cervical carcinoma, the dicyclomine concentra-

tion was determined to not be related to the cause of death. The high level of morphine found in the blood could be contributed to the decedent's past medical history of chronic pain. The toxicology data provides important information, as it was determined that the drugs detected did not play a significant role in the cause of death.

References

1. *Physicians' Desk Reference*, 60th ed. Thomson PDR, Montvale, NJ, 2006.
2. R.C. Baselt. *Disposition of Toxic Drugs and Chemicals in Man*, 7th ed. Biomedical Publications, Foster City, CA, 2004.
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5. B.Randall, G.Gerry and F. Rance. Dicyclomine in the sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) a cause of death or an incidental finding? *J. For. Sci.* 31: 1470-1474, 1986.



Chemically, BENTYL (dicyclomine hydrochloride) is [bicyclohexyl]-1-carboxylic acid, 2-(diethylamino) ethyl ester, hydrochloride with the above chemical structure.

Dicyclomine hydrochloride occurs as a fine, white, crystalline, practically odorless powder with a bitter taste. It is soluble in water, freely soluble in alcohol and chloroform, and very slightly soluble in ether.

WEB BASED CONTINUING EDUCATION COMING

Submitted by Project Co-Directors: Peter Stout, Ph.D., DABFT and Jeri Roper-Miller, Ph.D., DABFT

Announcing the availability of a web based continuing education opportunity for forensic scientists. This program is offered by RTI International in a cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). This program will be available in this form at least through November of 2009. The purpose is to provide readily available continuing education opportunities for forensic scientists (toxicologists), ranging from basic information on forensic topics to advanced interpretive issues. One hour is required for attendance of each training module and a certificate of attendance will be offered upon completion of each course.

The program features free participation using live virtual classroom content and on-demand content.

Participants need access to a phone and internet, although, program content is best viewed using high speed access.

Visit the site often as new course material is updated continually. Details of the program can be found at:

◆ ◆ ◆
www.rti.org/forensiced
◆ ◆ ◆

For additional information:

E-mail: cfs-forensic-ed@rti.org, or
Phone toll free: **1-866-252-8415**

We have already seen substantial interest from busy professionals. Please inform others who may be interested in this program. Feedback, observations, and constructive comments are encouraged

from participants to ensure that this program is beneficial and effective for the community.



Jeri Roper-Miller, Ph.D. and Peter Stout, Ph.D. are co-Directors of the new Web Based Continuing Education Program.



TOXICOLOGY - BITS & PIECES

Submitted by Section Editor, J. Robert Zettl, MPA

AAFS
NEWS

TOXICOLOGY SECTION

AAFS / SOFT
JOINT DRUGS & DRIV-
ING
COMMITTEE

NATIONAL SAFETY
COUNCIL—COMMITTEE
ON ALCOHOL AND
OTHER DRUGS

The Toxicology Section of the AAFS was honored in that one of our members, Dr. Bruce A. Goldberger served as President of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences this past year 2007-2008 and presided over the 60th Anniversary Meeting which was held February 18-23, 2008 in Washington D.C. Dr. Goldberger selected the theme of his meeting appropriately as “The Forensic Sciences—An International Treasure”.

The keynote speaker was Senator, Joseph R. Biden, Jr. who provided the Academy with a spirited video outlining his support for the forensic sciences.

The AAFS Meeting provided numerous workshops involving many SOFT members. Notable toxicology workshops were “*Forensic Toxicology: A Historical Perspective*” with Yale Caplan, Barry Logan, Michele Merves and Alphonse Poklis presenting; “*ChemStation Productivity by Agilent*” with H. Chip Walls and William Anderson presenting; “*Postmortem Toxicology: Interpretation of Drug Concentrations in Hair*” with Christine Moore, Timothy Rohrig, Daniel Isenschmid and Laureen Marinetti presenting, and “*Marijuana Induced Psychosis*” with Vina Spiehler, Kenneth Ferslew, Joseph Manno and Philip Kemp presenting.

The Toxicology Section of the AAFS Meeting hosted two Toxicology Poster Sessions and a number of Platform scientific papers including 67 presentations.

The committee met and is in the process of developing the final product for the combined AAFS / SOFT DUID website. This has been a rather long and arduous project expected to be completed within the next few months. Thanks to Dr. Kerrigan and the committee for keeping the project on track.



Rob Middleberg, Ph.D., pictured above, served as Toxicology Section Chair at the AAFS Meeting in Washington D.C.

Below: Gathered at the February 2008 AAFS Meeting in Washington D.C. are Vickie Watts, M.S., Marilyn Huestis, Ph.D., Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D., Yale Caplan, Ph.D., Dan Isenschmid, Ph.D., Marina Stajic, Ph.D., and Tony Costantino, Ph.D.

The Executive Board of NSC/CAOD met on Sunday prior to the AAFS 2008 annual meeting. Items and issues discussed were:

- a push for the development of “drugged driving legislation,”
- a position paper stating that laboratories should always confirm drugs of abuse prior to results reporting,
- updating of CAOD material on the NSC website, and
- establishing a policy for acceptable practices in evidential breath alcohol testing.

The full committee met the following day with a presentation from James Fell of the Pacific Institute for Research & Evaluation on Traffic Safety and Enforcement Programs. During that meeting, the 2008 Robert F. Borkenstein Award was presented to J. Mack Cowan during ceremonies that evening. Mr. Cowan is the Manager of the Texas Breath Alcohol Program.

Prior recipients of this prestigious award are Robert Forney, Edgar Kivela, Kurt Dubowski, Robert Reeder, Ralph Turner, Bryan Finkle, William Picton, Douglas Lucas, Lowell Van Berkom, J. Robert Zettl, Yale Caplan, A.W. Jones, J.D. Chastain, Rod Gullberg, and Patrick Harding.



TOXICOLOGY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Submitted by Vickie W. Watts, M.S.

ALEXANDER O. GETTLER AWARD PRESENTED TO WILLIAM ANDERSON, PH.D.

Dr. William Anderson was awarded the 2007 American Academy of Forensic Sciences Toxicology Section's Alexander O. Gettler Award. In accordance with the historical criteria of the award, the Alexander O. Gettler award is given for outstanding contributions to the knowledge base of forensic toxicology. Dr. Anderson received this award for lifetime achievement in forensic toxicology to include the development of analytical methods and the interpretation of postmortem toxicology results. This is exemplified by his research and publications concerning the postmortem redistribution of drugs. He has published several pa-

pers and a book chapter concerning the fact that the concentration of some drugs may change after death under a process called postmortem redistribution. "The thesis of the project was that the concentration of some drugs may be elevated in a heart blood specimen and our work proved that this may happen," states Dr. Anderson. "This was a novel concept when we presented the mechanisms of how this happened and how to deal with the problem. The work had a major impact on how postmortem drug concentrations are interpreted."

**Excerpts for this piece were taken from the Washoe County Sheriff's Media Advisory.*



William Anderson, Ph.D.

ROLLA HARGER AWARD PRESENTED TO CHARLES WINEK, PH.D.

One of SOFT's Charter members, Dr. Charles Winek was honored with the Rolla N. Harger Award from the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. The Rolla Harger award is bestowed to members of the AAFS Toxicology Section for outstanding contributions to forensic toxicology through education, advancement of the profession and analytical achievements.

The many contributions that Dr. Winek has made are too long to include in this posting. In summary, following his doctoral degree, Charles worked one year with Proctor & Gamble and then returned to teach at his alma mater, Duquesne University, for 38 years. Three years into teaching he became the Chief Toxicologist for Allegheny County that serves Pittsburgh and surrounding communities, and then as Director of the Department of Labs that include the toxicology, crime and health labs

for a total of 32 years. In his CV are listed over 120 papers published in scientific and peer reviewed journals, many of which, as did Rolla Harger, have centered on ethanol studies from stability and interpretation, to novel analytical methods in alternate matrices such as bone marrow and synovial fluid. Dr. Winek has authored, co-authored, or contributed to over 30 books and over 50 papers presented at meetings to include research presented by graduate students he advised.

On a more personal note, Charles has been smoking a pipe long enough that there are cherry blend tobacco fields in NC named in his honor. He is of Polish decent and attributes many of his more admirable traits to the Italian influence of the neighborhood he grew up in at Erie, PA.

**Excerpts for this piece were taken from Frank Esposito's Introduction at Award Ceremony.*



Charles Winek, Ph.D.

ABERNATHY AWARD PRESENTED TO LAUREL J. FARRELL, B.A.

Ms. Laurel Farrell, B.A. was awarded the 2007 American Academy of Forensic Sciences Toxicology Section's Ray Abernathy Award. In accordance with the historical criteria of the award, Ms. Farrell has been a practicing forensic toxicologist both at bench level and supervising practitioners of forensic toxicology for over 30 years. Ms. Farrell is an internationally recognized authority in the field of drugs and driving impairment and continues to serve as a well-respected researcher, educator and leader in the field of forensic toxicology. She has excelled and promoted the field of forensic toxicology through her numerous workshops and platform presentations at national and international scientific conferences around the world.

Ms. Farrell has worked on numerous committees for the Toxicology Section of the American Academy and has assisted in countless workshops conducted at the annual conferences. Laurel is Past President of the Society

of Forensic Toxicologists (2002) and served on the SOFT Board of Directors as a Board member and officer from 1996 until 2003. She is Past Chairman of the AAFS/SOFT Joint Drugs and Driving Committee from 2000 to 2002. Ms. Farrell has served on the Executive Board of the National Safety Council Committee on Alcohol and Other Drugs and has worked on numerous subcommittees within this group.

I have personally been acquainted with Laurel Farrell for over 20 years and have known her to be of the highest moral character. Ms. Farrell is an avid educator of forensic toxicologists and provides practitioners in the forensic toxicology community the tools and training to promote and enhance their skills on the bench performing toxicological analyses as well as interpretation as to the results of their analyses. She is a leader in all aspects of her endeavors in the field of forensic toxicology. Those of us who have worked with her on the



*Laurel Farrell, B.A. and husband, Scott
At the February 2008 AAFS Meeting*

many successful projects she has embraced are better people for the experience.

Out of respect and friendship,
Vickie W. Watts

Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.

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 Office@soft-tox.org

ToxTalk Deadlines for Contributions:
February 1 for March Issue
May 1 for June Issue
August 1 for September Issue
November 1 for December Issue

ToxTalk is the official publication of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc., mailed quarterly (bulk mail) to its members. It is each member's responsibility to report changes of address to the SOFT Administrative Office. Non-members may receive ToxTalk for \$15 per calendar year. Checks payable to SOFT may be mailed to the SOFT Administrative Office. To submit articles or address ToxTalk issues please email to ToxTalk@soft-tox.org.

Future S.O.F.T. Meeting Info

- 2008:** Phoenix, AZ.....Oct. 27-31, 2008.....Vickie Watts, Norman Wade
- 2009:** Oklahoma City, OK.....Oct. 18-23, 2009.....Phil Kemp
- 2010:** Richmond, VA.....Oct. 18-22, 2010.....Michelle Peace, Lisa Tarnai Moak
- 2011:** San Francisco, CA.....Nikolas Lemos
- 2012:** Boston, MA.....Michael Wagner

REFER TO THE 2008 MEETING WEBSITE OFTEN

The new, user friendly 2008 SOFT Meeting Website, www.soft2008.org, is currently available to reference current, detailed meeting information. Use this site to download the "Call for Papers Instructions", to check on Workshop Details, to view photographs / information about the resort, or to check updates on the Preliminary Program. Additions and updates to this website and links to related sites are continually happening. It is

We're on the Web!
www.soft-tox.org

recommended that you log in frequently and see "What's New".

BOOK HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW

Hotel room reservations at the Arizona Grand during the S.O.F.T. Conference is \$189 for SOFT attendees. **Reservations are only accepted by phone. Call toll free 1-877-800-4888 and be sure to reference the SOFT Group** to take advantage of the reduced rate. The Resort is a very large 164 acre property recently enjoying a 52 million dollar renovation. Every guest room is a two-room suite, perfect to share expenses with a colleague, or to bring the family for an extended vacation. **If you want to ensure that you're not forced to an overflow hotel, BOOK NOW.** Room availability cannot be guaranteed if you wait.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The S.O.F.T. 2008 meeting in Phoenix will be here before we know it! It takes the effort of many people to ensure all events proceed smoothly. Volunteers are always needed to help ensure that meeting attendees fully enjoy their stay in the host city.

Anyone able to offer a few hours of time during the meeting as a S.O.F.T. Volunteer should notify the Volunteer Coordinator to be added to the schedule. Mention specific available timeframe and any particular areas of interest that would be preferable to help with.

Thanks to both past and future volunteers for helping make S.O.F.T. meetings efficient and enjoyable for everyone!

Debby Denson, SOFT Volunteer Coordinator
 Email: denson@rti.org Tele: 919-541-7265

Article layout, digital mechanics, grammatical editing, and graphic assistance for ToxTalk provided by volunteer students, David Watts and Kayla Fulmer.

2008 S.O.F.T. COMMITTEE CHAIRS

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Committee Chair</u>
Nominating.....	Diana Wilkins, Ph.D.
Membership.....	Sarah Kerrigan, Ph.D.
Strategic Planning.....	Bradford Hepler, Ph.D., DABFT
Budget, Finance, and Audit.....	Robert Turk, Ph.D., DABFT
ToxTalk Co-Editors.....	Yale Caplan, Ph.D., DABFT Vickie Watts, M.S.
ByLaws.....	Yale Caplan, Ph.D., DABFT
Publications (JAT Special Issue)	Dan Anderson, M.S., ABFT
Awards.....	Philip Kemp, Ph.D., DABFT
Drugs & Driving.....	Sarah Kerrigan, Ph.D.
Meeting Resource.....	Anthony Costantino, Ph.D., DABFT
Policy and Procedure.....	William Anderson, Ph.D.
SOFT Internet Web-Site.....	Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D., DABFT
Continuing Education.....	Ann Marie Gordon, M.S.
Laboratory Guidelines.....	W. Lee Hearn, Ph.D.
Ethics.....	Aaron Jacobs, Ph.D.
Drug Facilitated Rape & Sexual Assault.....	Marc LeBeau, Ph.D.
MS/MS Guidelines.....	John Cody, Ph.D.

