May 2013

HESI Annual Meeting. Registration is now OPEN and FREE. Join us on 11-13 June 2013 in Alexandria, Virginia for dynamic speakers, great science, and to help shape the future of HESI’s scientific programs. Registration and additional information can be found here.

HESI PATC / IFBC Biotechnology Symposium. On 7-8 May 2013, the HESI Protein Allergenicity Technical Committee (PATC) and the ILSI International Food Biotechnology Committee (IFBC) co-hosted a Biotechnology Update Symposium in Arlington, VA. The purpose of the symposium was to discuss priorities and challenges for safety assessment of products of agricultural biotechnology across the NAFTA region (Canada, Mexico, and the US). Fifty scientists from government, academia, and industry participated in the symposium. Regulatory science perspectives were presented by representatives from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Health Canada, the Mexico Intersecretarial Commission of Biosafety and Genetically Modified Organisms, the US Department of Agriculture, the US Food and Drug Administration, and the US Environmental Protection Agency. Of particular interest was a half-day session devoted to other news.

HESI Genomics Workshop. The HESI Application of Genomics to Mechanism-Based Risk Assessment Technical Committee and Maastricht University co-organized a workshop on Moving Forward in Human Cancer Risk Assessment in the Genomics Era 2.0 held May 16-17, 2013 at the OECD Congress Center in Paris, France. An international group of approximately 60 attendees from clinical, industrial, and government institutions convened to discuss progress in human carcinogenesis safety evaluation strategies and cancer risk assessment. Workshop sessions addressed utility of toxicogenomics approaches in risk assessment of genotoxicity findings and of chemical carcinogenicity as well as informatics challenges. For additional information, contact Dr. Raegan O’Lone, rolone@hesiglobal.org.


HESI RISK21 Workshop in Japan. On 5 July 2013, the HESI RISK21 Technical Committee will host a workshop at TKP Otemachi Conference Center, in Tokyo, Japan. The purpose of the workshop is to share the RISK21 strategies and approaches for chemical risk assessment and discuss their applicability in Japan and globally. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Michelle Embry (membry@hesiglobal.org) or Ms. Ayako Takei (takei@hesiglobal.org), HESI Scientific Advisor in Japan.

HESI at IUTOX. The Risk Assessment in the 21st Century (RISK21) Technical Committee and the Genetic Toxicology Committee (IUTOX) negotiated and sponsored symposia at the International Congress of Toxicology 2013 (ICT 2013) which will be held in Seoul, South Korea on 30 June – 4 July 2013. Symposium: RISK21: Accurate, Resource Appropriate Risk Assessment, on 1 July 2013 at 14:00-15:30.

• Prof. Alan Boobis (Imperial College London, UK), “Why the need for RISK21?”
• Dr. Douglas Wolf (US EPA, USA), “RISK21 Case Studies”
• Prof. Angelo Moretto (University of Milan, Italy), “Applications to Cumulative Risk”
• Dr. Bhaskar Gollapudi (Retired Dow Chemical Co., USA), “A Critical Assessment of Low Dose Response in Genetic Toxicology”
• Dr. Takehiko Nohmi (National Institute of Health Sciences, Japan), “DNA Repair and Translesion DNA Synthesis as Constituents of Based Carcinogenicity Studies”

HESI at Teratology Society. The Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology (DART) Technical Committee is co-sponsoring a symposium on “Communication of Risk for Medication Use in Pregnancy and Lactation” on 24 June 2013 in Tucson, AZ at the Teratology Society Annual Meeting. Dr. Jane Stewart (AstraZeneca), DART co-chair, is one of the symposium chairpersons.

HESI CRSC-FDA Workshop. Registration is now OPEN. On 23 July 2013, HESI, CRSC and FDA are hosting the workshop, Reconciling the Current Cardio-Risk Paradigm: Antithrombotic Risk Assessment During Drug Development Without the Thrombotic QT Study; at FDA’s White Oak Facility. The workshop will examine and discuss a new paradigm, focusing on a comprehensive assessment of ion channel effects to determine actual proarrhythmic risk. This new approach has the real potential to obviate the need for clinical Thorough QT studies, making CV risk assessment more efficient. Please contact Ms. Jennifer Pierson (jpierson@hesiglobal.org) for more information.

HESI at Green Chemistry Conference. The Sustainable Alternatives Subcommittee will have a strong presence at the 17th Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference on 18-20 June 2013 in North Bethesda, MD. Three presentations will be given by Dr. Derek Mur (Environment Canada), Prof. Royce Francis (George Washington University) and Dr. David Constable (ACS Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference on 18-20 June 2013 in Washington, DC). Please visit us at our website, on YouTube or follow us on Twitter to receive announcements of all publications, warning messages and conferences, and additional information about the symposium.

HESI at the Teratology Society. The Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology (DART) Technical Committee is co-sponsoring a symposium on “Risk Assessment During Drug Development Without the Thrombotic QT Study” at FDA’s White Oak Facility. The workshop will examine and discuss a new paradigm, focusing on a comprehensive assessment of ion channel effects to determine actual proarrhythmic risk. This new approach has the real potential to obviate the need for clinical Thorough QT studies, making CV risk assessment more efficient. Please contact Ms. Jennifer Pierson (jpierson@hesiglobal.org) for more information.

HESI at the OECD Congress Center. Dr. Raegan O’Lone, Rolone@hesiglobal.org.

UPCOMING HESI WORKSHOPS

Global reach, multidisciplinary relevance. In this month’s issue alone, we see HESI’s scientific leadership featured in the US, Europe, Korea and Japan, and at such venues as the OECD Congress Center in Paris, France and the US Food and Drug Administration’s center in Rockville, Maryland. Consider this month’s sampling of HESI initiatives – green chemistry, developmental toxicology, carcinogenomics, cardiovascular safety evaluation methods, and more. HESI’s science continues to translate the highest quality research into meaningful applications for human and environmental health and safety.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR