



# Insights

Your Monthly Update of News and Notes from HESI



## January 2015

**Congratulations to Dr. Christopher Mason.** Weill Cornell Medical College, for his selection as the subject of the first 2015 [GenomeWeb Young Investigator Profile](#). Dr. Mason is an active participant on the HESI Genomics Committee and is contributing to their efforts to develop novel methodologies for measuring gene expression in formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tissues. Look for a publication on this research from the Genomics Committee this spring! For more information about the HESI Genomics Committee, contact Dr. Raegan O'Lone ([rolone@hesiglobal.org](mailto:rolone@hesiglobal.org)).

**CIPA Update Meeting.** Over 200 people attended the 11 December 2014, CIPA Update Meeting in Silver Spring, Maryland. HESI cosponsored this meeting with the US FDA, the Cardiac Safety Research Consortium, and the Safety Pharmacology Society. Attendees included safety pharmacologists, toxicologists, clinicians, regulators, and more. Highlights from the meeting included updates from each of the CIPA Work Streams: Ion Channel, Clinical Translation, In Silico, and Myocyte groups. HESI is currently managing the Myocyte Group, which is planning a larger study for 2015. For more information, visit the [CIPA website](#) or contact Jennifer Pierson ([jpierson@hesiglobal.org](mailto:jpierson@hesiglobal.org)).

**Future Leaders Travel Award.** HESI is pleased to announce the Future Leaders Travel (FLT) Award, a new and competitive travel-award program designed to give early and mid-career scientists the opportunity to explore collaborative, translational science via attendance at designated HESI scientific meetings. This award is open to any scientist (from academe, government, industry, research institutes, NGOs, etc.) with an advanced scientific degree. More information, eligible workshops and an application can be found on the [HESI website](#).

**Strategic Planning Process.** HESI's current strategic plan is set to expire at the end of 2015. With that in mind, HESI began a new round of strategic planning in 2014, which will culminate in two important planning sessions in 2015. Feedback on present and future organizational challenges and future goals will be gathered at the January Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting as well as through interviews conducted in early 2015. A major strategy session will be held at the June Annual Meeting, where the BOT, Emerging Issues Committee, and invited members and guests will work with the consultants to develop a draft plan. A final plan is anticipated by 4Q 2015. Questions about the strategic planning process can be directed to Ms. Cyndi Nobles ([cnobles@hesiglobal.org](mailto:cnobles@hesiglobal.org)).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**ToxForum Winter Meeting.** The HESI Genetic Toxicology Technical Committee (GTTC) is sponsoring and holding a session on “Use of Genotoxicity Data in Quantitative Risk Assessment: Are We Ready for a Paradigm Shift?” at the Toxicological Forum’s 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Meeting on 27 January 2015, in Washington, DC. For additional information, visit the [meeting website](#) or contact Dr. Jennifer Tanir ([jtanir@hesiglobal.org](mailto:jtanir@hesiglobal.org)).

**Save the Date: 20–21 April 2015 for Fetal Imaging in Regulatory Developmental Toxicity Studies.** The HESI Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology Committee (DART) is sponsoring a workshop on the topic of developing and using specific imaging technologies (e.g., micro-CT, MRI) for alternative methods for evaluating structural birth defects in animal models. The workshop will introduce and discuss image capture technology relative to existing fetal evaluation methodology, describe the regulatory community’s perspective and path for acceptance of results using imaging technology, discuss minimal acceptable criteria for imaging to comply with Good Laboratory Practices and Computer Validations requirements, and develop criteria to demonstrate concordance between new and existing examination methods and between testing results. Registration will open soon. For more details, see the [workshop website](#) or contact Dr. Connie Chen ([cchen@hesiglobal.org](mailto:cchen@hesiglobal.org)). This workshop is also eligible for HESI’s FLT Award. Click [here](#) for additional details.



**Save the Date: 2015 HESI Annual Meeting!** HESI’s Annual Meeting will be held 9–11 June 2015, in Washington, DC. More details will be posted to the website soon.

## PUBLICATIONS

Daston GP, Beyer BK, Carney EW, Chapin RE, Friedman JM, Piersma AH, Rogers JM, and Scialli AR. (2014) [Exposure-based validation list for developmental toxicity screening assays](#). *Birth Defects Res B Dev Reprod Toxicol*. 101(6):423–428 (Open Access).

Zeiger E, Gollapudi B, Aardema MJ, Auerbach S, Boverhof D, Custer L, Dedon P, Honma M, Ishida S, Kasinski AL, Kim JH, Manjanatha MG, Marlowe J, Pfuhler S, Pogribny I, Slikker W, Stankowski LF Jr, Tanir JY, Tice R, van Benthem J, White P, Witt KL, and Thybaud V. (2014). [Opportunities to integrate new approaches in genetic toxicology: An ILSI-HESI workshop report](#). *Environ Mol Mutagen* (Early View).

### ILSI Health and Environmental Sciences Institute (HESI)

1156 Fifteenth Street, NW  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20005-1743  
202.659.3306 phone  
202.659.3617 fax

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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Happy 2015 to all!**

There is so much to look forward to in the coming year at HESI—not least of which is the development of a renewed strategic plan. As we build our 2016–2020 vision for HESI, we encourage all of you to provide input and help us define critical issues, partners, and milestones. Thanks in advance for your involvement!

*Spil D. Rebit*