



Insights

Your Monthly Update of News and Notes from HESI



April 2015

New HESI Member. HESI welcomes ICL-IP America, Inc. as a new corporate sponsor! ICL-IP America is active in the Sustainable Chemical Alternatives Technical Committee.

HESI at SETAC Europe. Several HESI projects will be highlighted at the 3–7 May 2015 Annual Meeting in Barcelona, Spain.

- The HESI Bioaccumulation Technical Committee–led *in vitro* ring trial will be described on a poster titled [“In Vitro Fish Hepatic Metabolism: Overview of Ring-Trial to Evaluate Transferability, Intra- and Interlaboratory Reproducibility”](#) on Wednesday, May 6 (Poster WE220).
- The HESI Animal Alternatives in Environmental Risk Assessment Technical Committee’s work will be highlighted in three platform presentations:
 - *“Harmonizing the Harmonized Test Guidelines: Fish Developmental Biology Terminology and Animal Testing Implications”* will be given by Dr. Michelle Embry (HESI) on Wednesday, May 6 (Platform 388).
 - *“Ecotoxicological Threshold of Concern (Eco-TTC): Development of an Approach to Assist in Environmental Hazard Assessment”* will be given by Dr. Michelle Embry (HESI) on Wednesday, May 6 (Platform 390).
 - *“The Fish Embryo Toxicity Test as an Alternative to the Larval Growth and survival test: Test Sensitivity and Alternative Endpoints in Zebrafish and Fathead Minnows”* will be given by Dr. James Oris (Miami University) on Wednesday, May 6 (Platform 458).

For more information on these HESI projects, contact Dr. Michelle Embry (membry@hesiglobal.org). For more information on the SETAC Europe meeting, please visit the SETAC [website](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration Now Open for the 2015 HESI Annual Meeting (9–12 June 2015, Washington, DC).

Registration is now open and the room block at the Westin Georgetown Hotel is also available. Check out the [website](#) for links and a draft agenda. This year HESI will be working on our strategic plan and we invite you to help us in the planning process on 11–12 June 2015. We also have some great speakers lined up, including Dr. Segenet Kelemu (African Insect Science for Food and Health), Dr. Theo Vos (Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation), Dr. Jessica Green (University of Oregon), and several more exciting lecturers.

Future Leader Travel Award. The 2015 HESI Annual Meeting is now eligible for Future Leader Travel (FLT) Awards! Are you interested in learning more about HESI as an organization? The Annual Meeting is a great introduction to HESI and the broad contributions of the scientific committees. Visit the [meeting website](#) to view a draft agenda and learn more. Tell your colleagues to apply for the FLT Award today! Apply online [here](#). Applications are due **April 27th** and awards will be announced by **May 8th**. Contact Ms. Jennifer Pierson (jpierson@hesiglobal.org) with any questions.

Registration Is Open—Labels Without Categories: A Workshop on FDA’s Pregnancy and Lactation Labeling Rule (20–21 May 2015, Arlington, Virginia). FDA recently finalized its Pregnancy Labeling and Lactation Labeling Rule (PLLR), which changes the organization of the current Pregnancy and Nursing Mothers section of the US package insert of prescription drugs. Among the many changes are the omission of the current letter categories, reformatting of the sections with inclusion of clinically relevant human and animal data, and written summaries of available safety data. In response to these changes, the DART Technical Committee is sponsoring a 2-day workshop that will provide a forum to discuss the impact of the PLLR and train relevant industry professionals on how to write labels according to the new rule. To register or for information, visit the [workshop website](#) or contact Dr. Connie Chen (cchen@hesiglobal.org) for more details.

HESI Emerging Issues Committee: Framework for Intelligent Non-Animal Methods for Safety Assessment Launch Webinar (30 April 2015). We are pleased to announce the launch of the new HESI Emerging Issues Committee on “Framework for Intelligent Non-Animal Methods for Safety Assessment” and we invite you to participate in this important effort. The committee activities will initiate with a free webinar on Thursday, 30 April 2015, at 11 AM EST to discuss the project in more detail. Because this is a HESI Emerging Issues Committee, there is no fee for either public or private-sector scientists (who are already HESI members) to participate in this committee during 2015. We ask only for your commitment of time and interest. If you would like to participate in this discussion, you may register for this webinar [here](#) or contact Dr. Stan Parish (sparish@hesiglobal.org) for more details.

HESI Outreach Webinar (19 May 2015 in North America / 20 May 2015 in Asia). HESI will hold a webinar on the *in vivo* Pig-a Gene Mutation Assay and the current activities to develop an OECD test guideline, on 19 May 2015 at 8:00–9:00 PM EDT/20 May 2015 at 9:00–10:00 AM Tokyo, Japan. The webinar will be presented by Dr. Stephen Dertinger (Litron Laboratories) on behalf of the HESI Genetic Toxicology Technical Committee. The webinar is scheduled in the morning Japan Time for the convenience of those in Asia but is open to all interested participants globally. To register for this free webinar, please contact Ms. Cyndi Nobles (cnobles@hesiglobal.org).

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Guth B, Chiang A, Doyle J, Engwall M, Guillon JM, Hoffmann P, Koerner J, Mittelstadt S, Ottinger S, Pierson J, Pugsley M, Rossman E, Walisser J, Dustan Sarazan R (2015) The evaluation of drug-induced changes in cardiac inotropy in dogs: results from a HESI-sponsored consortium. *J Pharmacol Toxicol Methods*. [In press](#).

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cherry blossoms have returned to Washington, so a much awaited spring can't be far behind. Activity at HESI is also blossoming with a multitude of HESI scientific meetings to be held this spring and the June HESI Annual Meeting not far behind. We look forward to seeing many of you at these important HESI forums.

Spiel D. Rohit