



## February Insights

### HESI at SOT 2017



[www.toxicology.org](http://www.toxicology.org)

Check out the great HESI science featured at the Society of Toxicology (SOT) 2017 Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, on 12–16 March 2017. Don't miss this year's [Merit Award Lecturer](#), Dr. Samuel Cohen, a longtime HESI member and trustee, on Monday, March 13, at 12:30 PM. The Merit Award recognizes a career of excellence in the field of toxicology. Congratulations to Dr. Cohen!

#### Monday, March 13

##### Merit Award Lecture

12:30 PM to 1:20 PM, CC Room 316

- Cell Proliferation and Carcinogenesis: Bad Luck and the Environment  
*Awardee and Lecturer: Samuel Cohen, University of Nebraska Medical Center*

##### Poster Session: Developmental and Juvenile Toxicity Session

9:30 AM to 12:45 PM, CC Exhibit Hall

- Evaluating Zebrafish Developmental Assays for Predicting a Drug's Teratogenic Plasma Level Using an Exposure-Based Validation Compound List
- Abstract Number/Poster Board Number: 1217/P341
- *Presented by: Steven Cassar, AbbVie on behalf of the HESI Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology (DART) Technical Committee*

#### Tuesday, March 14

##### Scientific Symposium Session: Lost in Translation: Bringing the Real World to *In Vitro* Data

2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, CC Room 321

*Co-Chaired by: Michelle Embry (HESI) and Todd Gouin (Unilever)*

##### Speakers

- Todd Gouin, Unilever
- Nynke Kramer, Utrecht University
- Beate Escher, UFZ-Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research

- Barbara Wetmore, US EPA
- John Wambaugh, US EPA
- Lisa Sweeney, Naval Medical Research Unit Dayton

### Poster Session: Genetic Toxicology

1:15 PM to 4:30 PM, CC Exhibit Hall

- Genotoxicity Assessment of Nanomaterials: Best Practices, Assays, and Methods
- Abstract Number/Poster Board Number: 2269/P627
- *Presented by: Rosalie Elespuru, US FDA on behalf of the HESI Genetic Toxicology Technical Committee (GTTC)*

### Wednesday, March 15

### Poster Session: Clinical and Translational Toxicology Session

9:30 AM to 12:45 PM, CC Exhibit Hall

- Enhancement of RNA From Formalin-Fixed Paraffin-Embedded (FFPE) Samples
- Abstract Number/Poster Board Number: 2546/P355
- Presented by Dr. Susan Hester, US EPA, on behalf of the HESI Genomics Committee

### Scientific Symposium Session: Enhancing the Clinical Benefit of Cancer Drugs: Toxicity as a Therapeutic Target

2:00 PM to 4:45 PM, CC Ballroom I

*Co-Chaired by: Syril Pettit (HESI) and Brian Berridge (GSK)*

#### Speakers

- Charles Cleeland, PhD, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Dr. Laura Cappelli, MD, John Hopkins University School of Medicine
- Jamie Holloway, PhD, Cancer Patient Advocate & Science Advisor
- Steve Lipshultz, MD, FAAP, FAHA, Children's Hospital of Michigan
- Syril Pettit, MEM, Health and Environmental Sciences Institute

View the meeting website and access the full program [here](#).

## Update From Your Board

On 23–24 January 2017, the HESI Board of Trustees convened their bi-annual meeting. These highly interactive sessions focused on active implementation of the [2016-2020 HESI Strategic Plan](#). Here's a quick summary:

- **Improving HESI's scientific foresight.** With input from our Scientific Committees, Trustees, and Emerging Issues Science Advisors as well as review of the predictions of other leading, global scientific entities, we have begun to produce a Foresight Report. This one-page visual guide, and its accompanying report, will aid HESI in identifying areas for novel scientific activity and will serve as a discussion starter upon which to build new partnerships. Join us for the June 2017 HESI Annual Meeting to see its initial roll out!
- **Creating more efficient means to connect ideas, funding, and infrastructure.** These are challenging financial times for all organizations (public and private sector). As such, the 2017 budget (as approved by the Board at this meeting) included additional refinements and realignments of expenditures to minimize costs to our supporting organizations while retaining value. Opportunities to further support and expand upon HESI's initial successes in obtaining grant funding in 2015/2016 were identified and will be pursued in 2017. Additionally, novel means of leveraging the expertise within and across our Scientific Committees and our Board to mutual benefit were identified. Stay tuned for announcement of a special recognition session for HESI Scientific Committee leadership at the June 2017 annual meeting (along with a strategic meeting of our Science Committee leaders and trustees).
- **Strengthening HESI's role as a connector and raising awareness of HESI as a platform.** Thanks to several months of work by the Board, staff, and external support partners, you will soon see new written materials, web content, and science outreach strategies that will enhance the accessibility and relevance of HESI's messaging for a range of audiences.

If you are interested in learning more about any of these items or other discussions, please contact Syril Pettit ([spettit@hesiglobal.org](mailto:spettit@hesiglobal.org)).

## DART Committee Members to Receive DIA's 2017 Author of the Year Award!

This annual award honors the author of the most accessed and downloaded article in DIA's peer-reviewed journal, *Therapeutic Innovation & Regulatory Science (TIRS)*. The article "[Birth Control in Clinical Trials: Industry Survey of Current Use Practices, Governance, and Monitoring](#)" was published in the March 2016 issue of *TIRS* and topped the 2016 list of publications with over 1,200 downloads. The paper is available via open access and can be downloaded [here](#). Congratulations to the DART Committee!

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## Congratulations to Former HESI Staff

Alex Keller (former HESI Program Associate and now a doctoral candidate at University of Virginia) was chosen as one of 100 "Leaders of Tomorrow" at the [GapSummit](#), an "international and intergenerational leadership summit" in biotechnology. In June 2017, Alex will participate with his co-awardees (from 40 countries) along with invited experts in the life sciences industry to discuss challenges and gaps in the biotech economy. The meeting will be held in Washington, DC, at Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business. Congratulations, Alex! We look forward to seeing you here in DC

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## The HESI PATC COMPARE Allergen Database Is Now LIVE!



HESI is pleased to make available the 2017 [COMPARE database](#) (COMprehensive Protein Allergen Resource), a new transparent resource for the identification of protein sequences that are known or putative allergens.

In its first year of operation, the HESI COMPARE scientific advisory team has validated its initial allergen identification process, selected candidate sequences via bioinformatics screening of all proteins entered into NCBI between May 2015 and May 2016, and completed the independent review. The complete 2017 database consists of 14 new unique sequences as well as allergens known from 2016 and previous years, for a total of 1970 allergens. The COMPARE database is a new, freely available resource for comparison of protein sequences to known allergens to ensure a safe food supply.

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## Upcoming Events

### HESI Outreach: ISCT 2017



The HESI Emerging Issues sub-committee on cell therapies safety, CT-TRACS (Cell Therapy - TRACKing,

Circulation, & Safety), is pleased to present a session selected based on scientific merit, at the 2017 International Society of Cellular Therapy (ISCT) Annual Meeting in London. Please join us on 6 May 2017 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. to learn about (1) the application of existing cell tracking technologies, methods, and best practices to cellular therapies and how these can help answer important safety questions to advance their clinical translation; and (2) the current state of tumorigenicity assessment for cell therapy products. For detailed information and meeting registration, visit <http://isct2017.com>. For questions about HESI CT-TRACS, contact Lucilia Mouries ([lmouries@hesiglobal.org](mailto:lmouries@hesiglobal.org)).

## Workshop on Mode of Action Approaches That Identify Genotoxic Mechanisms in Mammalian Cell Systems

The HESI GTTC will hold this workshop in conjunction with the Genetic Toxicology Association (GTA) annual meeting on 10 May 2017 in Newark, Delaware. Workshop topics will include mini adverse outcome pathways for genotoxic modes of actions, methods to determine the mode of action of genotoxic agents, and how to use new technologies to establish the mode of action of genotoxicity for new chemical entities. Please visit the GTA meeting [registration site](#) to register for the workshop. Contact Jennifer Tanir ([jtanir@hesiglobal.org](mailto:jtanir@hesiglobal.org)) for additional information.


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## Recent Publications

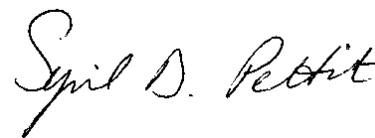
Brooks MB, Turk JR, Guerrero A, Narayanan PK, Nolan JP, Besteman EG, Wilson DW, Thomas RA, Fishman CE, Thompson KL, Ellinger-Ziegelbauer H, Pierson JB, Paulman A, Chiang AY, Schultze AE (2017) Non-lethal endotoxin injection: a rat model of hypercoagulability. *PLoS One*. Published ahead of print 12 January 2017. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0169976. [Read more](#).

Dellarco M, Zaleski R, Gaborek BJ, Qian H, Bellin CA, Egeghy P, Heard N, Joliet O, Lander DR, Sunger N, Stylianou KS (2017) Using exposure bands for rapid decision making in the RISK21 tiered exposure assessment. *Critical Reviews in Toxicology*. Published ahead of print 10 Feb 2017. doi: 10.1080/10408444.2016.1270255. [Read more](#).

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



February weather in Washington, DC, can often be described as dreary. In contrast, one look at this month's *Insights* and it should be clear that HESI is VIBRANT. With three major international workshops and training events, innovative symposia at SOT, and the launch of a new scientific initiative on the microbiome, there is much to be excited about. The HESI Board of Trustees meeting in January also focused on novel ways to improve HESI's scientific foresight and leadership globally. With vision, leadership, and scientific rigor, HESI is poised to move into 2017 stronger than ever.



Syril Pettit, HESI Executive Director

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