



Insights

Your Monthly Update of News and Notes from HESI



February 2013

HESI Board Convenes in January 2013. The HESI Board met in conjunction with the ILSI organization's Annual Meeting. The Board cited strong forward progress in implementing HESI's Strategic Plan (adopted in January 2012), endorsed the CITE initiative, and confirmed HESI's sound financial standing. Outreach strategies to strengthen HESI's impact as a global scientific organization were proposed and regional outreach teams were implemented for South America and Asia regions. If you have interest in participating in these global outreach discussions or would like a copy of the Board minutes/materials, please contact Ms. Cyndi Nobles (cnobles@hesiglobal.org).

Project Committees Elevated to Technical Committee Status. At the January 2013 HESI Board meeting, the Program Strategy and Stewardship Committee unanimously approved two new Technical Committees. As Technical Committees, these programs are recognized for their robust scientific achievements to date and their multi-year future program goals. The Relevance and Follow-Up of Positive Results in In Vitro Genetic Toxicity Assays (IVGT) Project Committee, is now the **Genetic Toxicology Technical Committee (GTTC)**, and the Animal Alternatives in Environmental Risk Assessment Project Committee, is now the **Animal Alternatives in Environmental Risk Assessment Technical Committee (Animal Alternatives Technical Committee)**. More information on these programs is available [here](#).

Extending Bioaccumulation Assessment to Terrestrial Systems. On 8-10 January 2013, in Miami, Florida, the HESI Bioaccumulation Committee broadened their focus with a workshop to assess the use of existing and new bioaccumulation methods for terrestrial ecosystems. Thirty-one participating scientists and regulators from 8 countries addressed questions related to laboratory, modeling, and field approaches. The Committee also provided support for two highly qualified graduate students to attend the workshop. The workshop participants will work together over the next few months to develop a series of papers for publication in the peer-reviewed literature. If you are interested in learning more about this workshop or any other activities of the Bioaccumulation Committee, please contact Dr. Michelle Embry (membr@hesiglobal.org).

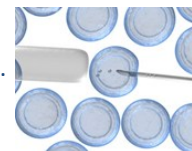
Developing Guidance on Alternatives Assessment.

On 7-8 February 2013, in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina at the NIEHS, the HESI Sustainable Alternatives Subcommittee held a workshop with 35 scientists to discuss guidance for alternative chemical assessment. The purpose of the workshop was to bring together multi-stakeholder and multi-disciplinary expertise to develop practical, problem driven guidance on the conduct of alternative chemical assessment and to identify challenges where future work is needed. The discussions focused on three specific subtopics: 1) attributes and tools, 2) decision-making and weighing, and 3) data gaps. The participants will develop a series of peer-reviewed publications in the coming months. If you are interested in learning more about this workshop or the Sustainable Alternatives Subcommittee, please contact Dr. Jennifer Young Tanir (itanir@hesiglobal.org).

UPCOMING HESI EVENTS

Workshop on "Pluripotent Stem Cells: Applications for Cardiovascular Risk Assessment."

18-19 March at the Amgen, Inc. Campus, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Sponsored by the HESI Cardiac Safety Technical Committee and the Safety Pharmacology Society. The online registration deadline is March 8! For more information, please click [here](#) or contact Ms. Jennifer Pierson (jpierson@hesiglobal.org).



Workshop on "Moving Forward in Human Cancer Risk Assessment in the Genomics Era 2.0"

16-17 May 2013 at the OECD Congress Center, Paris, France. Co-organized by the HESI Application of Genomics to Mechanism-based Risk Assessment Technical Committee and the Maastricht University, Dept of Toxicogenomics. For more information, please click [here](#) or contact Dr. Raegan O'Lone (rolone@hesiglobal.org).



DEADLINE EXTENDED to 31 March 2013 for HESI Data Collection on Developmental and Reproductive

Study Practices. The HESI DART Technical Committee has extended their deadline for data for two projects: 1) Birth Control in Clinical Trials, and 2) Rabbit 2nd Species. If you are interested in contributing data to these projects, contact Dr. Connie Chen (cchen@hesiglobal.org). The forms can also be downloaded [here](#).

SOT 2013 ... and HESI Goes Interplanetary. HESI science will be featured in a variety of scientific posters, presentations, and platforms at this year's SOT meeting in San Antonio, Texas. For a complete list of events, [click here](#). Also – don't miss out on the chance to [register](#) for the HESI Lunchtime Seminar that will feature Jeffrey Davis, M.D., M.S., Director, Human Health and Performance from the NASA Johnson Space Center. Dr. Davis will address, *"Open Collaboration and Innovation: A NASA Perspective on Developing New Science and Technology for Human Health and Performance."* As part of HESI's CITE initiative, HESI has recently become a member of the NASA National Human Health and Performance Center partnership and looks forward to working with the NHHPC on innovative multidisciplinary programs.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

We are pleased to announce the addition of two new staff members. In December 2012, **Ms. Megan Harries** joined HESI as a Scientific Program Associate. Megan has a background in Chemistry and Visual Arts and is supporting several HESI programs in both a technical and administrative capacity. In January 2013, **Dr. Connie Chen** joined HESI as a Scientific Program Manager with specialization in Environmental Health Sciences as well as molecular epidemiology and biostatistics. She is managing the DART and Imaging Committees, among other HESI responsibilities. Join us welcoming them both!

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The New Year is already in full swing with a flurry of active committee initiatives. This energy was also evident in the January 2013 Board meeting where we heard a strong commitment to strengthening HESI's scientific portfolio through innovative partnerships and in collaboration with ILSI's regional branches around the world. HESI has a tremendous network - 2013 will be year to enhance the efficiency and impact of existing network interactions and create valuable new ones.

Spiral D. Pettit

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Bioaccumulation Committee

Burkhard, LP, et al., 2013. Improving the Quality and Scientific Understanding of Trophic Magnification Factors (TMFs). *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 47(3): 1186–1187. (Access full text [here](#).)

Biomonitoring Committee

Arnold, S, et al., 2013. The use of biomonitoring data in exposure and human health risk assessment: benzene case study. *Critical Reviews in Toxicology.* 43(2): 119–153. (Access full text [here](#).)

Cardiac Safety Committee

Reagan WJ, et al., 2013. Comparison of the effectiveness of troponin I and T as indicators of doxorubicin-induced cardiotoxicity. *Toxicol Pathol.* (Accepted for publication.)

Genetic Toxicology Committee

Gollapudi BB, et al., 2013. Quantitative approaches for assessing dose-response relationships in genetic toxicology studies. *Environ Mol Mutagen.* 54(1): 8-18. (Access full text [here](#).)

Pfuhler, S, et al., 2013. Genotoxicity of Nanomaterials: Refining Strategies and Tests for Hazard Identification. *Environ Mol Mutagen.* (Accepted for publication.)

HESI Science Featured in a Special Issue of Birth Defects Research Part B (BDRB).

Congratulations to the Inhibin B Steering Team of HESI's Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology (DART) Technical Committee. Inhibin B is a testicular peptide hormone that has been observed to decrease in serum when spermatogenesis is disrupted. The team's work on validating a commercially available Inhibin B kit for use in preclinical studies and results of the assessment of serum inhibit B as a circulating marker of spermatogenic dysfunction in the rat has been published in this month's issue of BDRB. You can view the articles [here](#).



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