

Welcome to August *Insights*. Inside this edition: RISK21 in Brazil and new column, "From the HESI President"!



August Insights

RISK21 in Brazil!

A RISK21 outreach team, composed of Samuel Cohen (University of Nebraska Medical Center), Michelle Embry (HESI – via video link), Tim Pastoor (PSC), and Doug Wolf (Syngenta), gave two very successful, well-attended, and interactive RISK21 hands-on workshops in Brazil the week of 13–16 June. The workshops introduced the RISK21 framework and provided participants with case study–led instruction on the use of the RISK21 approach and web tool (available at www.risk21.org).

A 1.5-day workshop with approximately 45 participants from the Brazilian government (ANVISA), industry, and academia was held 13–14 June in São Paulo, Brazil. The workshop was hosted by Bayer CropScience and was co-organized by ILSI Brasil.

The team traveled to Brasilia for another 1.5-day workshop on 15–16 June, which was attended by approximately 40 risk assessors and scientists from the Brazilian government (ANVISA, IBAMA, and MAPA), industry, and academia. The workshop was co-organized by ILSI Brasil.

The RISK21 team travels to Ottawa in November 2016 for a 1.5-day workshop, hosted by Health Canada. We are also exploring options for outreach with partners in other areas of the globe. Stay informed by visiting www.risk21.org or contacting Michelle Embry (emembry@hesiglobal.org) for more information.



Workshop participants, at the Bayer Crop Sciences site in Sao Paulo, engage in hands-on, small-group case study work.



(Left to right) RISK21 team instructors Doug Wolf, Tim Pastoor, and Sam Cohen at the São Paulo workshop.



The RISK21 web tool in action!



Tim Pastoor explains the RISK21 web tool to the attendees gathered in Brasília, Brazil.

HESI Trustee Receives Distinguished Award

We congratulate Dr. Samuel Cohen (University of Nebraska), who recently received the American College of Toxicology 2016 Distinguished Scientist Award. Dr. Cohen is being recognized for his outstanding work in the field of toxicology and has been a HESI Trustee since 2001.

Read more [here](#).



Visit With Taiwan Institute of Economic Research

HESI staff had the opportunity to meet with three agricultural trade and food safety experts from Taiwan, hosted by the U.S. Department of State's International VisitorLeadership Program, and share some of the work of the HESI RISK21 and ProteinAllergenicity Technical Committees. As the delegation was particularly interested in food safety, risk assessment, and biotechnology, the meeting on 27 July 2016 also included perspectives from ILSI, ILSI NorthAmerica, and ILSI Research Foundation. The visitors were particularly interested in how ILSI and HESI cooperate with academia, government and industry to identify and resolve scientific questions.



(Left to right) Syril Pettit (HESI), Lucilia Mouries (HESI), Mansi Krishan (ILSI-North America), Chi-Wei Yu (Taiwan Institute of Economic Research), Tzu-Yu Fu (Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan), Suzanne Harris (ILSI), Jennifer Tanir (HESI), Andrew Roberts (ILSI-Research Foundation), Chi-Yang Yeh (Neipu Farmers' Association, Pingtung County)

Upcoming Events

Register for the HESI Protein Allergenicity Workshop! (Registration Deadline Extended)



Join us on **12–13 October 2016** to learn about the current approaches and possible gaps in the characterization and detection of proteins anticipated to trigger non-IgE responses, including the etiology of celiac disease as well as the role of dietary proteins in inducing/triggering this disease. Participants will also consider whether the safety assessment of foods derived from genetically modified crops should include considerations related to non-IgE-mediated food allergy. The workshop includes the participation of a multisector panel of speakers from the Leiden University Medical Centre, the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the European Laboratory for the Investigation of Food-Induced Diseases, EFSA, and representatives from the agrobiotech industry.

A description of the meeting, preliminary agenda with confirmed speakers, and registration link are available [here](#). The registration deadline is **September 5th**. All are welcome (open to the public and registration is free). We look forward to seeing you there!

Apply for a Travel Award

This workshop is eligible to HESI's Future Leader Travel Fund, which provides support for young scientists to participate in publicly advertised HESI-sponsored scientific meetings and training activities. See details for eligibility and application [here](#). The deadline for submissions is **30 August 2016**.

SOT CCT on Use of Cardiomyocytes for the Assessment of Proarrhythmic Risk Workshop

The Society of Toxicology (SOT) Contemporary Concepts in Toxicology (CCT) will convene a workshop on the Use of Cardiomyocytes for Assessment of Proarrhythmic Risk on **25–26 October 2016** in Arlington, Virginia. The SOT CCT planning committee invites you to submit a poster abstract to share your research on the topic. Abstracts are due **9 September 2016**. For more information, to submit an abstract, and to register, please visit the [conference website](#). The conference will feature scientists from government agencies, pharmaceutical industry, and academia to discuss the current state of the art and the path forward.

Recent Publications

The RISK21 team is proud to highlight the publication of two manuscripts on cumulative risk assessment in *Critical Reviews in Toxicology*! Both papers are available for free download.

- Moretto A, Bachman A, Boobis A, Solomon KR, Pastoor TPP, Wilks MF, Embry MR (2016) A framework for cumulative risk assessment in the 21st century. *Critical Reviews in Toxicology*. doi: 10.1080/10408444.2016.1211618. [Epub ahead of print 11 August 2016]. [Read more](#)
- Solomon KR, Wilks MF, Bachman A, Boobis A, Moretto A, Pastoor TP, Phillips R, and Embry MR (2016) Problem formulation for risk assessment of combined exposures to chemicals and other stressors in humans. *Critical Reviews in Toxicology*. doi: 10.1080/10408444.2016.1211617. [Epub

Mutagenesis Special Issue: Quantitative Genetic Toxicology (2016) This special issue was inspired by the HESI Genetic Toxicology Technical Committee's Workshop: Genetic Toxicology at the Crossroads – From Qualitative Hazard Evaluation to Quantitative Risk Assessment. *Mutagenesis*. 31(3):233–374. [Read more](#)

North CM, Ezendam J, Hotchkiss JA, Maier C, Aoyama K, Enoch S, Goetz A, Graham C, Kimber I, Karjalainen A, Pauluhn J, Roggen EL, Selgrade M, Tarlo S, and Chen CL (2016) Developing a framework for assessing chemical respiratory sensitization: a workshop report. *Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology*. (accepted). doi: 10.1016/j.yrtph.2016.06.006. [Read more](#)

Thybaud V, Kasper P, Sobol Z, Elhajouji A, Fellows M, Guerard M, Lynch AM, Sutter A, and Tanir JY (2016) Genotoxicity assessment of peptide/protein related biotherapeutics: Points to consider before testing. *Mutagenesis*. 31(4):375–384. [Read more](#)

FROM THE HESI PRESIDENT



Infrastructure: A boring term that makes life simple

I know that I'm guilty of taking things for granted. Take, for example, ordering on Amazon: browse, click, click, done, and a package shows up. They've got it covered. I rarely think about all the infrastructure that Amazon relies on to get things done. Without planning, implementation, follow-up, and dedication, that Amazon order would be a whole lot less convenient. Until I became involved with HESI at the Board level, I took for granted all of the infrastructure that's necessary for HESI to be THE place for scientists from academia, government, NGOs, and industry to tackle difficult scientific challenges. A peek behind the scenes is like visiting backstage at the Phantom of the Opera: staff preparing agendas, badgering committee members to write, edit, and complete publications, and otherwise keeping an excellent Institute running smoothly. The Executive Committee meetings are lively affairs, with new ideas from Syril dissected in detail before Board-level consideration. Meanwhile, the Emerging Issues Committee is wading through fascinating proposals, the Communications committee is finding new ways to connect to the members, and the PSSC is carefully watching over the many HESI projects. What we see as a "product" in HESI Insights or peer-reviewed journals is a bit like getting that package from Amazon. What seems simple is often that way because of great infrastructure – a boring term that cannot possibly describe what we take for granted in people and processes that make HESI such a superb organization.

Tim Pastoor, HESI President

ILSI Health and Environmental Sciences Institute (HESI)
1156 Fifteenth Street, NW
2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20005-1743
| 202.659.3306 | 202.659.3617 | HESI@hesiglobal.org | www.hesiglobal.org

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HESI | 1156 15th St NW, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20005

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