



# Insights

Your Monthly Update of News and Notes from HESI



## May 2015

**HESI PATC Workshop in Paris.** The HESI Protein Allergenicity Technical Committee (PATC) held the “Molecular and Genetic Basis of Potential Unintended Effects in Modified Plants” workshop in Paris, France, on 14 April 2015. This workshop was attended by over 60 industry, regulatory, and research scientists from around the globe. Through a series of sessions, participants gained information on topics ranging from the molecular and genetic basis of unintended effects to the potential consequences of those effects on food and feed safety assessment. The workshop presentations are available on the HESI [website](#). For more information, please contact Dr. Stan Parish ([sparish@hesiglobal.org](mailto:sparish@hesiglobal.org)).

**Fetal Imaging Workshop Update.** Over 50 industry, regulatory, and research scientists from around the globe gathered on 20–21 April 2015, in Arlington, Virginia, for the “Fetal Imaging for Regulatory Developmental Toxicity Testing” workshop, sponsored by the Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology (DART) Technical Committee. Participants learned about image capture technologies and how they relate to existing preclinical fetal evaluation methods. Through the breakout group discussions, participants were able to reach consensus on a number of issues that addressed the challenges of moving toward broader acceptance of the technology in the current testing paradigm. The organizing committee plans to publish the workshop proceedings by the end of 2015. Speaker presentations will be also be posted on the HESI website soon. For more information, please contact Dr. Connie Chen ([cchen@hesiglobal.org](mailto:cchen@hesiglobal.org)).

**Call for Participants: Framework for Intelligent Non-Animal Methods for Safety Assessment.** The Framework for Non-Animal Methods recently held a webinar ([recording available here](#)) open to all HESI members to discuss this latest initiative and receive feedback about the future course of action. As the project moves forward, the committee invites participants to join this initiative. Participation is free to all HESI members for this first year. If you would like to participate, please fill out the [survey](#) indicating which subgroups you would like to join. For more information, please contact Dr. Stan Parish ([sparish@hesiglobal.org](mailto:sparish@hesiglobal.org)).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**HESI Outreach Webinar (19 May 2015 in North America/20 May 2015 in Asia).** HESI will hold a webinar, "Update on the Development and Validation of the *Pig-a* Gene Mutation Assay," including 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. Robert Heflich (U.S. Food and Drug Administration) and 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 and receive the connection information, please contact Ms. Cyndi Nobles ([cnobles@hesiglobal.org](mailto:cnobles@hesiglobal.org)).

**Abstracts Due 27 May 2015 for SETAC North America.** HESI is co-chairing a session with Clean Production Action, titled "Integrating Environmental Health and LCA into Chemical Alternatives Assessment," at the SETAC North America 36th Annual Meeting on November 1–5, 2015, in Salt Lake City, Utah. This session will offer a unique opportunity for discussions by bringing together expertise from the alternatives assessment, LCA, and environmental health communities. Abstracts are due by 27 May 2015 and can be submitted through the [meeting website](#). For more information, please contact Dr. Jennifer Tanir ([jtanim@hesiglobal.org](mailto:jtanim@hesiglobal.org)).

**HESI Annual Meeting (9–12 June 2015; Washington, DC).** The 2015 HESI Annual Meeting will be held 9–12 June 2015, at the Westin Georgetown Hotel. Special hotel room rates are available until 22 May. [Book now](#) to take advantage of the discount and secure your room. Visit the meeting [website](#) for more information, registration, and a draft agenda.

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is hard to believe that there are only a few weeks until the 2015 HESI Annual Meeting! We have a fantastic lineup of speakers again this year, covering topics ranging from global disease burden to ecosystem services to interdisciplinary education. We already have nearly 100 registrants, so there will surely be lots of lively discussion and exchange as well. If you haven't yet registered, do so now! I look forward to seeing many of you very soon.

*Spil D. Robert*

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