



GETA NEWSLETTER

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March 2008

A publication of the Genetic and Environmental Toxicology Association (GETA) of Northern California

SPRING DINNER MEETING

“Strategies to Predict QT Prolongation and Arrhythmias: Assessing hERG and Other Cardiac Ion Channels Early in Drug Development”

Speaker: Dinah Misner, PhD

**Associate Director, Department of Safety Pharmacology,
Non-clinical Drug Safety, Roche Palo Alto, LLC**

**Thursday, April 3, 2008
Terrace Café - Palm Room
Best Western El Rancho Inn & Suites
1100 El Camino Real, Millbrae, CA 94030
650-588-8500**

Reception and on-site registration: 5:45 pm

Dinner: 6:30 pm

Presentation: 7:30 pm

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING: www.elranchoinn.com/map.html

Dinah Misner will present preclinical strategies to assess new chemical entities (NCEs) for cardiovascular liabilities early in the development process, with an emphasis on detection of QT prolongation and arrhythmias. Topics to be discussed include an overview of the current regulatory guidelines around pre-clinical cardiovascular assessment, discussion of state-of-the-art technologies for both *in vitro* and *in vivo* testing, and development of customized strategies to de-risk cardiovascular liabilities of NCEs. Additionally, specific examples will be provided where these new technologies have benefited projects to identify liabilities early, enabling selection of the “best” NCE moving forward.

Partial support for this meeting was generously provided by MPI Research

Registration Deadline is Friday, March 28th!!



President's Comments

.... by Lida Antonian

Greetings to GETA members! I would like to welcome our new and returning GETA Board members, especially our newest member Greg Brorby as our Program Chair and President-Elect. If you would like to make suggestions for specific speakers or topics that interest you, please contact our President-Elect, Greg Brorby GBrorby@exponent.com.

GETA will be sponsoring three scientific meetings this year. Our first scientific meeting of the year will be on Thursday April 3, 2008. Dinah Misner, Ph.D., Associate Director of Non-clinical Drug Safety at Roche Palo Alto will give a presentation on "Strategies to Predict QT Prolongation and Arrhythmias: Assessing hERG and Other Cardiac Ion Channels Early in Drug Development." RSVP soon to ensure a seat and dinner. The second scientific meeting of the year will be a half-day symposium and will take place in June. Stay tuned for more details.

GETA newsletter is going electronic. Members will be receiving the newsletter as an e-mail attachment. This is an opportunity for all of us to forward the electronic newsletter to colleagues and encouraging them to become GETA members. Andrew Olaharski andrew.olaharski@roche.com is Our Membership officer and can help with enrollment of

new members. GETA is especially interested in increasing its student and postdoctoral membership.

Our organization was deeply honored by the participation of pioneering scientists in the 2007 scientific seminars. We wish to extend our gratitude to our 2007 speakers: Bruce Ames (CHORI), Mike Connor (SFEI), Kathryn Stewart (Orion Academy), Antonio Hardan (Stanford U), Irva-Hertz-Picciotto (UC Davis), and Joachim Hallmayer (Stanford U).

Finally, I wish to thank the outgoing board members, especially Inge Ivens, Past-President, for their dedication and excellent work this past year.

I am thankful for the friends I have gained through my participation in the GETA activities and I am humbled by the dedication of the board members in serving the scientific community. I am looking forward to working with Greg Brorby and our board and wish all our members a healthy and happy 2008.

"Applaud us when we prevail, correct us when we fail, but above all do not let this indispensable, irreplaceable institution wither, languish or perish as a result of Member State indifference, inattention or financial starvation." - Kofi Annan

2008 GETA Executive Board

The Executive Board is given the responsibility of determining all policy and business related to the Association. To this end, you are urged to contact any Board member with any suggestions you may have, concerns, meeting topics, and general business to be considered.

Officers (*Program Chair)	Phone	E-Mail	
President	Lida Antonian	650-562-1615	lidaant@comcast.net
President-Elect*	Greg Brorby	510-268-5006	gbrorby@exponent.com
Past President	Amy Arcus-Arth	510-622-3199	aarcus@oehha.ca.gov
Secretary	Linda Rausch	650-859-5008	linda.rausch@sri.com
Treasurer	Bob Baldwin	408-245-6912	DrBob@iname.com
Newsletter Editor	Open position		
Membership Officer	Drew Olaharski	650-855-6569	Andrew.Olaharski@gmail.com
Web Officer	Pamela Lee	650-859-6739	pamela.lee@sri.com
<u>Steering Committee</u>			
At-Large	Kathleen Vork		kvork@oehha.ca.gov
Business	Tom McDonald	510-705-5195	mcdonaldpartyof4@yahoo.com
University	Adrian Rodriguiz	408-924-4846	rodriga@email.sjsu.edu
Government	Steve DiZio	916-255-6634	Sdzio@aol.com
Student/Postdoc	Open position		
Student/Postdoc	Open position		



Fall meeting review

...by *Lida Antonian*

GETA's Fall meeting was held on November 1, 2007 at Hs Lordship's Restaurant in Berkeley.

Mike Connor, Ph.D., Executive Director at the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) was the speaker.

Dr. Connor presented the efforts by the Regional Monitoring Program (RMP) for Water Quality in the San Francisco Estuary, which is administered by the San Francisco Estuary Institute.

Dr. Connor talked about studies that the SFEI conducted in emerging contaminants in the bay area in three separate studies: a study to determine concentrations of pharmaceutical compounds in waters of the estuary and in influent and effluent from two wastewater treatment facilities; a collaborative study with the Marine Mammal Center to determine the level of emerging contaminants in seals as part of a larger study to track the health of harbor seals; and lastly a study evaluating contaminants and hormone concentrations in fish from the San Francisco Bay. The presentation is available to download on the GETA website www.ems-us.org/geta.

GETA DUES NOW DUE IN JANUARY

As many of you have discovered, GETA is in the process of converting our term of memberships to a calendar year basis. Previously, memberships expired on the anniversary of the date of sign-up or renewal. While that practice is seemingly simple, it has created a series of administrative problems. The most obvious problem is for both the members and GETA to remember when a membership is about to expire. We have been trying to make the conversion process as easy as possible, while trying to minimize any adverse financial consequences for our members. One of the ways that we are trying to facilitate this conversion can be seen in the schedule of registration fees for our next meeting. Paid up members are charged one price, while non-members are charged that same base price plus \$15 and will include membership for the remainder of this calendar year. To encourage attendance and membership by students and postdocs, their heavily subsidized registration fee will also include GETA membership for the balance of 2008.

If anyone has serious objections to these practices or suggestions for improvements, please send your comments to DrBob@iname.com. To avoid my spam filters, do not include in the subject line the name of any pharmaceutical, favorite body part, or the words "mortgage", or "prize winner". But all of you knew that

GETA NOW HAS YAHOO GROUPS

GETA now has a YAHOO group. The URL for the GETA group is:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/getamembers/>

Using the links to the left members can post messages, list files, create polls, etc. It's easy and best of all it's free. Using the "Members" link on the left members can access and edit preferences. Contact Drew Olaharski Andrew.Olaharski@gmail.com if you have questions.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE
FOR SPRING MEETING IS
FRIDAY
MARCH 28TH!**

GETA Past Presidents

1980 Anthony Carrano	1990 Carol Green	2000 Jim Cleaver
1981 Robert Hill	1991 Charles Salocks	2001 Steve Dizio
1982 James MacGregor	1992 James Tucker	2002 Melanie Marty
1983 James Bartholomew	1993 Jon Mirsalis	2003 Melanie Marty
1984 Joseph Brown	1994 Collette Rudd	2004 Karen Steinmetz
1985 James Felton	1995 George Alexeff	2005 Tom McDonald
1986 Caroline Sigman	1996 Andrew Wyrobek	2006 Inge Ivens
1987 Martyn Smith	1997 Rob Scofield	2007 Amy Arcus
1988 Ann Burrell	1998 Kim Hooper	
1989 Regine Goth-Goldstein	1999 Janice Yager	

GETA NEWSLETTER GOES ELECTRONIC!

After consideration by the GETA Board, it was decided to eliminate mailing paper copies of the Newsletter and instead, send it to the membership as a pdf file via e-mail. A review of the membership rolls showed that all members had provided e-mail addresses.

It now becomes even more important for members to keep the GETA Membership Officer informed of changes in contact information, especially e-mail addresses.

If you need to update your information, send an e-mail to Drew Olaharski at Andrew.Olaharski@gmail.com

**DON'T RISK MISSING AN ISSUE
OF THE NEWSLETTER!**

KEEP YOUR INFO UP TO DATE!

CHECK OUT THE GETA WEBSITE

The Environmental Mutagen Society (EMS) continues to generously host our website. To get to the site, go to the EMS website at

www.ems-us.org/geta

You can download previous Newsletters and find links to selected speaker presentations from past meetings.

While you're at it, peruse the EMS page and consider joining EMS!

UPCOMING NATIONAL MEETINGS

Society of Toxicology (SOT)

47th Annual Meeting

March 16-20, 2008

Seattle, Washington

www.toxicology.org

American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)

April 12-16, 2008

San Diego, California

www.aacr.org

Environmental Mutagen Society

39th Annual Meeting

October 18-22, 2008

Rio Grande, Puerto Rico

www.ems-us.org

Society for Risk Analysis (SRA)

December 7-10, 2008

Boston, Massachusetts

www.sra.org

Registration Form

GETA SPRING DINNER MEETING

Thursday, April 3, 2008
Registration 5:45 to 7:30 pm
Reception 5:45 to 6:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm,
Presentation 7:30 pm
Terrace Café, Palm Room
Best Western El Rancho Inn & Suites
1100 El Camino Real, Millbrae CA 94030

Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

GETA Member? Yes No (circle one)

Registration Fee (including dinner):

Regular Members: \$30
Non-members (includes 1-yr membership): \$45
Full-time Registered Students/Post-Doc
(includes 1-yr membership): \$15

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

DINNER includes salad, entree, seasonal vegetables, French bread and butter, dessert, coffee or tea.

Entree choices: (1) Chicken Marsala (sauteed breast of chicken with a mushroom _____
marsala wine sauce and rice pilaf
(2) Grilled Salmon Filet (with an orange saffron sauce and rosemary _____
roasted red potatoes
(3) Roasted Vegetable Pave (portabello mushroom, tomato squash, _____
spinach, and basil mashed potatoes

Send this completed registration form and check (made payable to **GETA**)
and postmarked by **Friday March 28th to:**

GETA
991-C La Mesa Terrace
Sunnyvale CA 94086-2416

You may also make reservations by e-mail to **rsvp2geta@bigfoot.com**
Please bring your check to the meeting.

*You will be billed if you fail to attend the meeting, unless you
cancel before Monday, March 31, 2008 at 3 pm*



GETA MEMBERSHIP

(New or Renewing Members)

Name _____

Title _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

Business Phone _____

FAX Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please give the above information as you would like it to appear in the
On-Line Membership Directory.

RENEWING MEMBERS PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE TO UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS!!

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Check here if above address is new _____

Regular Member, 1 year \$15
Regular Member, 2 year \$25 (*save 5 bucks!*)
Regular Member, 3 year \$35 (*save 10 bucks!!*)
Student/Postdoc, 1 year \$ 7

Total Enclosed _____

Please send this completed form and check made payable to **GETA** to:

GETA Membership
c/o Drew Olaharski
3431 Hillview Ave, A5-2
Palo Alto, CA 94304