

# TOXTALK



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### A BETTER YOU IN 2022

As I was driving to work this morning, I glanced at a roadside sign where the following message was displayed "A Better You in 2022". As that single phrase kept rolling around in my thoughts, I realized that this would make a great New Year resolution. It does not matter what stage we are in our relationship(s), career, or life, each of us should strive to improve in one way or another.

I have seen many changes to our field during my thirty-four years as a forensic toxicologist. It seems obvious that as our understanding of the human body and various physiological systems grows and technology changes, we as individuals must continuously learn new things or get left behind. We must all resolve to be a "Better You in 2022" by committing to a life-

time of learning.

2021 was a challenging year for many of our members, laboratories, and vendors. Uncertainty over COVID and its impact on operations remained throughout the year and has continued into 2022. Even with this cloud of uncertainty hanging over our head, SOFT as an organization continued to deliver for our members. As you all know, we returned to a face-to-face meeting in Nashville where we were able to visit old friends and sit down together to discuss topics important to our field. Additionally, the SOFT office and various SOFT members were busy developing and delivering continuing education to our members in the form of virtual programming. Virtual content included:

- Professional Mentoring Committee delivered six programs to include a kickoff of the program, three webinars, summer book club in conjunction with SOFTopics and a final commencement for the mentees.
- The Continuing Education Committee delivered three virtual workshops to include an NPS webinar, Expert Testimony webinar and an

## TOXTALK

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED


Interpretation webinar (in conjunction with TIAFT).

- SOFTopics continues to be a hit with our members. SOFTopics delivered five virtual presentations (including the Summer Book Club with the Mentoring Committee)
- What to Expect at SOFT webinar was developed and presented as an aid to new members or first-time meet-

ing attendees

- Several SOFT committees held virtual open meetings

Thanks to all who contributed to making 2021 a successful year for SOFT. I look forward to all that 2022 may offer and encourage everyone to adopt the resolution to be a "Better You in 2022"



**ROBERT SEARS, M.S., F-ABFT**  
**SOFT PRESIDENT**

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Submitted by: Beth Olson, SOFT Executive Director

[beth@soft-tox.org](mailto:beth@soft-tox.org)



This year is already off to a running start for SOFT! We are continuing to grow and expand our reach and our services to members and the forensic toxicology community. I'd like to take this opportunity to share some of the exciting things we have coming up in 2022.

In September, SOFT signed a cooperative agreement with the National Highway Traffic Administration (NHTSA) to establish a demonstration program where liaisons support state toxicologists located within NHTSA's region 5, 7, and 9. Through an open application process to the SOFT membership, these three Regional Toxicology Liaison roles have been filled by Sabra Jones (Region 5: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin), Chris Heartsill (Region 7: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska) and Kristen Burke (Region 9: American Samoa, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, North Marianas). The purpose of this project is to develop an understanding of the scope and prevalence of drug-impaired driving

problems through improved data collection and toxicology testing; find common ground among testing laboratories across jurisdictions; improve drug-impaired driving toxicology data collection and reporting; and increase coordination and communication among toxicology labs and drug impaired driving.


In December, the SOFT Board approved the creation of an Applied Analytical Toxicology Committee, chaired by Rebecca Wagner. This brings our grand total of SOFT committees to 20! In an effort to continue to engage the SOFT membership with committee activities, many of SOFT's committees will be holding virtual committee meetings that are open to all SOFT members to attend. These will begin in March. Keep a lookout for emails with dates and times of these meetings.

Speaking of SOFT committees, the Continuing Education Committee, headed by Chair Robert Johnson, plans to offer even more webinars than 2021. The first, State of Drug-Facilitated Crimes Testing - 2022, chaired by Madeline Montgomery and Laureen Marinetti, will be held on March 31, and is sponsored by SOFT's Drug Facilitated Crimes Committee, chaired by Lisa Reidy. Find more information and register below.

In addition, our SOFTopics facilitated discussion groups, planned, and organized by Dani Mata, Vanessa Meneses and Alanna de Korompay, will hold their first program of the year on February 17, 2022: Raising

the Bar in Productivity and Efficiency, and will continue bi-monthly throughout the year. Find more information and register [HERE](#).

The pairings for SOFT's 2022 Professional Mentoring Program have been made. This year there are a total of 98 SOFT members participating. This equates to 56 partnerships, with 41 of those being new pairs, and 15 continuing from 2021. With new chairs Courtney Wardwell and Kim Samano taking over the reigns from founding Chair Michelle Peace, the committee has also added three new members: Graham Kennedy, Afton Martinez and Dawn Sklerov. All three are past participants in the Professional Mentoring Program, and are joined by returning committee members Jim Burris, Amanda Cadau, Marisol Castaneto, Lindsay Glicksberg, Helen Ha, Marta Concheiro-Guisan, Erin Karschner, and myself. We are so proud of the work the committee has done over the past three years. We are always in need of mentors who are further along in their career, so please look out for emails from the committee and consider participating next year.



**BETH OLSON**  
**SOFT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

In September, SOFT was awarded the Regional Toxicology Liaison (RTL) Demonstration Project grant by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). This cooperative agreement aims to benefit state toxicology programs through increased support, communications, resources, criminal justice system coordination; decreased processing time of toxicology samples; and better data reporting. The project will support the establishment of Toxicology Liaisons that support states in NHTSA regions 5, 7, and 9 (<https://www.nhtsa.gov/about-nhtsa>), to assist with training, collaboration, and the standardization of testing across state labs and the reporting of data to better understand the scope of the drug-impaired driving problem.

Several SOFT members applied for each of the RTL positions. It was a difficult decision as all of the candidates brought unique skillsets forward for consideration. Ultimately, the final three SOFT members chosen to fill the RTL positions are below. Past President Amy Miles will serve as the Project Manager with the support of Responsibility.org. We are looking forward to working with SOFT members and their laboratories throughout this project!



# SABRA JONES

## REGION 5

Sabra Jones is a Forensic Toxicologist and board-certified as a Diplomate by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology. Sabra has worked in transportation safety at the Federal Aviation Administration and driving impairment, in addition to other areas of forensic toxicology, at the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's office. For the past seven years, she has served as an Assistant Professor and graduate student mentor at Boston University School of Medicine's Biomedical Forensic Sciences program. She conducts research in the areas of forensic toxicology, analytical chemistry, and impairment. Sabra earned her Master of Science degrees in Drug Chemistry and Forensic Toxicology from the University of Florida as well as undergraduate and graduate degrees in Criminal Justice from the University of Central Oklahoma. Sabra is currently working on her PhD at Oklahoma State University, Center for Health Science in Forensic Science.

She serves as Chair and on the Executive Board of the National Safety Council's Alcohol, Drugs, and Impairment Division. She serves as Vice-Chair of the Academy Standards Board's Toxicology Consensus Body. Sabra is active in a number of professional organizations such as the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists, and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences where she currently serves as Chair of the toxicology section. Sabra was appointed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's Governor Charles Baker to serve on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Forensic Oversight Board and the Special Commission on Operating Under the Influence and Impaired Driving.





# CHRIS HEARTSILL

## REGION 7

Chris Heartsill is currently certified by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology as a Diplomate – Forensic Toxicology and received his B.S. degree in Chemistry from East Central University in 1991. Chris has been working in analytical chemistry for over 30 years with more than 27 years of forensic toxicology experience including the areas of human performance forensic toxicology, postmortem forensic toxicology, and forensic laboratory quality management. Chris was most recently the Quality Manager for the Dallas Police Department Crime Scene Response Section. Prior to coming to the Dallas Police Department, he served as the Quality Manager for the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office in Fort Worth, Texas and the Toxicology Supervisor, Toxicologist, Quality Manager, and Breath Testing Technical Supervisor at the Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office in Dallas, Texas. Chris is an active member of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, currently serving as the Secretary, Chair of the Membership Committee, member of the Policies and Procedures Committee, member of the Finance Committee, and Associate Editor of ToxTalk. Other professional organizations include the Southwestern Association of Toxicologists, serving two individual terms as President, Grant Committee Chair, and Historian, the Texas Association of Crime Laboratory Directors, the Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers, and the National Safety Council Alcohol, Drugs & Impairment Division, serving on the Executive Board and performing duties as the Chair of the Administrative Committee.

Chris enjoys promoting education in forensic toxicology through participation in workshops and numerous scientific session presentations in organizations including the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, California Association of Toxicologists, Southwestern Association of Toxicologists, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, law enforcement training academies, and the Texas District & County Attorneys Association. The focus of many of these presentations included educating law enforcement, the legal community, and toxicologists in the chemical testing and enforcement of DWI and driving under the influence of drugs.

Chris has served on several committees regarding the advancement of forensic science from a local and national perspective including serving on the Texas Forensic Science Commission Licensing Advisory Committee and currently serving the Organizational Scientific Area Committees Toxicology Subcommittee as an affiliate member. He has actively been involved in the accreditation of forensic laboratories through activities with the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) and has served as a Lead Assessor for ANAB.



# KRISTEN BURKE

## REGION 9

Kristen has worked in the Toxicology field for over 24 years. Most recently, she worked as the Laboratory Director for CA Department of Justice, Bureau of Forensic Services – Toxicology Laboratory (over five years). Her toxicology program provided services to 46 of the 58 counties in CA. In addition, she was responsible for oversight of the forensic alcohol program and breath alcohol program throughout nine different regions. Prior to state employment, she worked as a Toxicologist in private sector for 7.5 years in Portland, OR. In 2005, she left private sector to work for Sacramento County Crime Laboratory in CA, where she worked as a Criminalist in the Toxicology unit for 8 years and as a Supervising Criminalist/Quality Manager for three and a half years. Kristen has provided numerous presentations regarding Toxicology DUID/DRE at training seminars such as California District Attorneys Association Conferences, NHTSA/CA Office of Traffic Safety Meetings, and CHP DRE Recertification Training Sessions. She is a member of California Association of Toxicologists and Society of Forensic Toxicologists. In addition, she has provided testimony regarding the analysis/effects of alcohol and drugs on the human body in the areas of human performance and postmortem throughout her career.

Kristen has served as a lead for one of the six sub-committees (Toxicology) to assist CA Office of Traffic Safety to develop a DUID Blueprint that identifies challenges and effective countermeasures for DUID in CA. Additionally, she is a member of the Federal Drug Testing Advisory Board for SAMHSA, a committee member of the CA Impaired Driving Task Force (IDTF) Committee, and served as the Committee Chair for the Technology, Research, and Data Subcommittee of the IDTF. She has served as both a Toxicology Technical Assessor and Lead Assessor for ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) previously ASCLD. Kristen received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology (Micro/Molecular) from Portland State University in 1997, her MBA from the University of Southern California (USC) in 2021 and is currently a MS Candidate for Ayurveda and Integrative Medicine at Maharishi International University.

In 2020 Kristen was a recipient of the NHTSA Public Service Award for her leadership and expertise implementing toxicology best practices, drug testing and expanded screening in California. This award led to further recognition by USC Marshall OMBA- Education for Tomorrow's Leaders. In addition, she was interviewed by the Select Science Magazine regarding the CA DOJ Toxicology Laboratory's "One Stop Shot Method."

# ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE - CLEVELAND, OH

SOFT 2022 is looking for you! The annual meeting will be held October 30 to November 4 at the Huntington Convention Center in downtown Cleveland, Ohio.

Now is the time for you to invest in the SOFT annual meeting in a variety of ways. If you have ideas for platform/poster abstracts or workshops in the forensic toxicology realm, get ready to submit your work. The Scientific Program Chairs, Workshop Chairs and JAT Special Editor are eager for your contributions in order to make the SOFT meeting an exciting, educational event. We also need plenty of volunteers to make the meeting a success. The Volunteer Coordinators will find a spot for you whether you are a first-time attendee or a seasoned member. Reach out to the hosts or designated members of the planning committee if you have any questions or concerns.

Here is a bit of Cleveland history that can be found a few miles from the Convention Center. Following World War I, local

developers envisioned a row of theaters on Euclid Avenue. New York City magnate Marcus Loew (of Loew's Theatres and MGM films) helped develop the area. The first two theaters were designed in the Italianate style and opened in 1921. Another theater was built in the Pompeian style. Additional theaters were also added. The last theater to be constructed was the Palace Theatre, known then as the "swankiest" theater in the country, opened in 1922. Over \$2 million was invested at the time in the theater.

Several transformations have been made to the performing arts center in downtown Cleveland in recent years. One of the most notable can be found in Playhouse Square and is called the GE Chandelier. This stunning centerpiece is 20 feet in height and adorned with 4,200 crystals (shown in photo).

We look forward to seeing you in Cleveland!

*Doug and Shelly*

## 2022 HOSTS



SHELLY CROSBY



DOUG ROHDE

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COORDINATORS  
MICHELE GLINN  
KIM TOMLINSON

WORKSHOP PROGRAM COORDINATORS  
JAYNE THATCHER  
NATHALIE DEROSIERS

EXHIBITOR LIAISON  
LIZ KIELY

FOOD AND BEVERAGE  
ANN MARIE GORDON  
DENICE TEEM  
DELISA DOWNEY  
CARL WOLF

MOBILE APPLICATION  
RUSTY LEWIS  
ROXANE RITTER  
SUNDAY SAENZ

AV COORDINATOR  
FRANK WALLACE

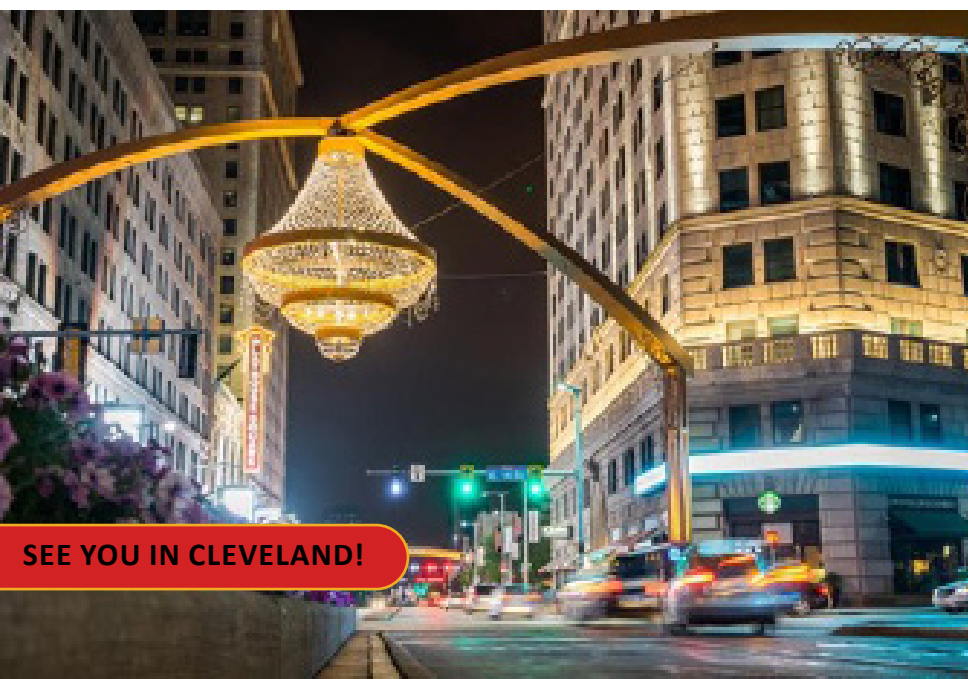
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JAT SPECIAL ISSUE EDITOR  
REBECCA HARTMAN

SOFT STAFF  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
BETH OLSON  
OPERATIONS MANAGER  
CC WATSON

2022 PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



SEE YOU IN CLEVELAND!

OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 4, 2022  
HUNTINGTON CONVENTION CENTER





We are currently seeking workshop proposals for the 2022 SOFT Annual Meeting in Cleveland, October 30 to November 4, 2022. We would like to offer a broad spectrum of workshops – from beginner to advanced, from traditional to novel. The most successful workshops can stem from individuals who want to learn more on a particular topic. Have an idea

but are not sure if you are ready to commit? Have questions about the process? Reach out and let us know your thoughts or questions.

Advance notice about possible workshop proposals helps us with the planning process. Final proposals for half-day and full-day workshops are due by April 15, 2022. See you in Cleveland!

## SOFT 2022 WORKSHOP COORDINATORS



JAYNE THATCHER



NATHALIE DESROSIERS

[EMAIL THE COORDINATORS](#)

[SUBMIT A PROPOSAL](#)

[SOFT 2022 WORKSHOP PAGE](#)

## 2022 HOSTS



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OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 4, 2022  
HUNTINGTON CONVENTION CENTER



# 2022 JAT SPECIAL ISSUE



Rebecca Hartman, PhD  
2022 Special Issue Editor

[RebeccaHartman@monroecounty.gov](mailto:RebeccaHartman@monroecounty.gov)

It was wonderful to see the SOFT community again in Nashville recently, after so long apart. It's hard to believe that it's already time to start thinking about Cleveland 2022.

I am honored to be invited to serve as the 2022 Journal of Analytical Toxicology SOFT Special Issue Guest Editor, and would like to thank SOFT President Robert Sears for entrusting me with this challenging responsibility. I look forward to upholding the longstanding tradition of compiling a high-quality issue to coincide with the upcoming SOFT annual meeting.

JAT enjoys a well-deserved reputation for publishing quality articles for the forensic toxicology community. As the official journal of SOFT and TIAFT, its value to the field has only grown over the years, as a reliable and accessible source of original research for the membership.

Of course, the true value of JAT lies in you—your contributions are crucial not just to the success of JAT, but more importantly to the ongoing development of our field. I encourage you to submit your manuscript to the SOFT 2022 Special Issue. Sharing and disseminating information through publication provides fellow toxicologists and other medicolegal stakeholders with valuable references, facilitating growth and expanding our collective knowledge and capabilities. As a new feature, Special Issue manuscripts will be published on the OUP website and PubMed within days, limiting the delay to disseminate your important work.

I also encourage the membership to help strengthen the Special Issue, by

volunteering to provide thorough and timely reviews for submitted manuscripts. Manuscripts will be carefully reviewed for originality, design, and technical content.

In acknowledgement of the effort involved with the manuscript publication process—and most particularly, the value of your research—all first authors of accepted Special Issue articles who are also SOFT members will be eligible to be considered for the 2022 Experimental Design and Impact on Toxicology (EDIT) award. This prestigious award recognizes outstanding scientific content and its notable or substantial impact on the field. Cleveland was the home of Irving Sunshine, and a Special Issue full of impactful articles will be an appropriate nod to his legacy this year.

Thank you in advance for your contributions toward a successful Special Issue. I look forward to receiving your submissions, and to seeing you in Cleveland!

**TITLES/ABSTRACTS DUE BY 2/18/22**  
**SUBMIT HERE**

**PAPERS SUBMITTED VIA MANUSCRIPT CENTRAL DUE BY 3/4/22**  
**SUBMIT HERE**



# AWARDS COMMITTEE

The SOFT Awards Committee is requesting applications for the Educational Research Award (ERA) and the Young Scientist Meeting Award (YSMA). These awards recognize students and young scientists performing outstanding forensic toxicology research. Awardees will present their findings at the annual meeting. Each award consists of a basic meeting registration and a \$2,000 stipend to be used to cover the cost of travel expenses.

## ELIGIBILITY:

**ERA:** Applicants for the award must be enrolled in a Master's, Pre-Doctoral, Post-Doctoral or Medical Residency academic program and performing research related to forensic toxicology.

**YSMA:** Applicants must be bench level scientists (B.S., M.S., or Ph.D.) with 5 years or less experience in the field of forensic toxicology and complete a research project related to forensic toxicology.

## AWARD CATEGORIES:

In order to fairly evaluate candidates for these competitive awards, applicants in a master's program will be judged separately from those applicants enrolled in a PhD, Post-Doctoral, or MD program. Typically one award will be granted in each of the following categories:

- Educational Research Award: enrolled in a Master's Program
- Educational Research Award: enrolled in a Pre-Doctoral, Post-Doctoral, or Medical Residency Program
- Young Scientist Meeting Award

In the event that there are two outstanding applicants in one of the above categories, one additional award may be given. A maximum of four award winners will be selected. It is not required that an award be granted in all categories.

## TO APPLY:

For instructions on the application process, go to the 'Features' tab on the SOFT website. Select Awards and then ERA or YSMA, as applicable. Application materials must be received by the Committee Chair no later than Friday April 1st. Winners will be notified by June 1st. If you apply for an award, you should not submit an abstract for consideration in the scientific program via the SOFT website; in the event that you are not selected to receive an award, the committee will ensure that your abstract is provided to the Scientific Committee.

Applications and questions regarding the application process should be directed to the SOFT Awards Committee Chair, Tim Rohrig, at [drtimrohrig@gmail.com](mailto:drtimrohrig@gmail.com)

## EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD (ERA)

In 2021, SOFT implemented a new program to present annual awards for exemplary work in the field of forensic toxicology. Award recipients will be determined through an open nomination process, and adjudicated by the SOFT Awards Committee. Awards will be presented at the SOFT 2022 Annual Meeting in Cleveland, OH. Membership in SOFT is required to both nominate a recipient and receive an annual award. Self nominations will not be accepted. Additional information will be included in the next issue of ToxTalk.

### AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

- **SOFT Research in Forensic Toxicology Award.** This annual award recognizes a member of SOFT who

## YOUNG SCIENTIST MEETING AWARD (YSMA)

is conducting scientific research that has a significant impact on the knowledge and practice of forensic toxicology. The research should be contemporary and peer-reviewed while directed toward improving the scientific foundation of forensic toxicology.

- **SOFT Young Forensic Toxicologist Service Award.** This annual award recognizes a young member of SOFT ( $\leq 40$  years old) for exceptional service to the organization. The recipient of the award must demonstrate excellence in service and leadership.
- **SOFT Teaching and Mentoring Award.** This annual award recognizes a member of SOFT who is

actively teaching and/or mentoring students and other persons in the field of forensic toxicology. This recipient of the award can be an academic or a non-academic practitioner. The measure of mentorship must be articulated by a letter of reference provided by one or more of the individuals mentored.

- **SOFT Distinguished Service Award.** This annual award recognizes a member of SOFT who has provided exemplary service to the Society of Forensic Toxicologists in a manner that was sustained in time and effort.

# MENTORING COMMITTEE

## OUR MISSION

The purpose of the Professional Mentoring Committee is to develop and nurture future leaders of the organization, to provide a forum for one-on-one career advice, and to provide a forum for mutually beneficial knowledge transfer for the purpose of supporting and advancing the SOFT organization and the forensic toxicology practice.

## ASSESSMENT SURVEY RESPONSES PREVIEW

Participants of our program and percentage of program assessment respondents in 2020 and 2021.

|               | 2020 | % Responded | 2021 | % Responded |
|---------------|------|-------------|------|-------------|
| <b>Mentee</b> | 40   | 67.50%      | 45   | 75.56%      |
| <b>Mentor</b> | 35   | 62.86%      | 37   | 81.08%      |

We have continued to have 40+ pairs through both years, with 7 pairs continuing onto their 2nd year in 2021 to 15 pairs continuing in 2022. With this increase, our program is growing organically with strategic and intentional mentoring pairing.

## MET AND SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEEDED

In 2020, our survey tallied out that most participants significantly exceed their goals in Interpersonal/Leadership Skills, Data/Case/Research Dissemination, and Engagement in SOFT. While in 2021, mentees were able to significantly meet their goals in Development of Interpersonal/Leadership Skills, Engagement in SOFT, and Technical Development.

## THE VALUE OF OUR PROGRAMS

In 2020, our participants also rated significant value in having a mentor with encouraging voices, able to coach, provide professional accountability, and source of knowledge. Similarly, in 2021, the values continue with engagement with SOFT, to be an encouraging voice, and to provide professional accountability, with growth of talent to innovate the field.

## A LOOK INTO 2022

As the Professional Mentoring Committee reviewed appointments at the end of 2021, we reappropriated subcommittees that now encompass Strategic Planning, Incoming Class, Programing and Resources. We are excited for another productive year with the committee working to produce content for successful mentoring relationships, webinars, and resources for personal and professional development. We look forward to analyzing the 2021 program assessment data to refine the mentorship experience for all parties involved.

## 2022 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kim Samano  
(Co-Chair)

Courtney Wardwell  
(Co-Chair)

Michelle Peace  
(Past Chair)

Jim Burris  
Amanda Cadau  
Marisol Castaneto  
Lindsay Glicksberg

Helen Ha  
Marta Concheiro-Guisan  
Erin Karschner  
Beth Olson

New Members:  
Graham Kennedy  
Afton Martinez  
Dawn Sklerov  
CC Watson

# 2021 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.

Business Meeting Agenda

Annual Meeting 2021, Nashville, TN

3:30 – 5:00 pm CST, September 30, 2021

1. Call to Order by President Miles at 3:35 pm CST *Amy Miles*
  - a. A quorum was established by Secretary Spargo
2. Approval of Agenda *Amy Miles*
  - a. Motion to approve: Dwain Fuller, Second Tim Rohrig, Approved by all
3. Approval of 2020 Business Meeting Minutes *Amy Miles*
  - a. Motion to approve: Andre Sukta, Second Dwain Fuller, Approved by all
4. President's Report *Amy Miles*
  - a. President Miles expressed how pleased she was that we were able to be together this year. She took time to thank those close to her, the hosts and planning committees of 2020 and 2021, the SOFT staff, and the SOFT Board. She spoke about how much SOFT has meant to her personally and professionally and shared personal experiences of relationships that have developed from her participation in this organization. She talked about how it has been an honor and privilege to serve SOFT in many capacities over the year, including as President. She thanked the membership for their trust and thanked them for all that they do.
5. Executive Director's Report *Beth Olson*
  - a. Olson spoke about the difficult decisions that have been made since the last time we all met in person, namely canceling last year's meeting and holding this year's meeting safely, while trying to retain as much of the typical SOFT experience as possible. She thanked the 2021 planning committee and asked committee members to stand and be recognized for their hard work during this difficult year. She also shared how much work and thought the Board has put into making challenging decisions and thanked them for their dedication to SOFT. She indicated that one positive that has emerged during this time is the increase in SOFT's virtual offerings, including Zoom committee meetings, webinars, and SOFTopics. She also gave a shout out to the Mentoring Committee for all that the committee has accomplished. She thanked all members for their commitment to SOFT.
6. Secretary's Report *Erin Spargo*
  - a. Secretary Spargo thanked the Policies and Procedures Committee and noted that the Policies and Procedures Manual now undergoes annual updates; the current revision is in process. Spargo also recognized the hard work of the Membership Committee as they routinely review membership applications throughout the year. SOFT currently has 1541 members. The traditional moment of silence for SOFT members that have passed away this year (Randall Baselt, Reid Jessen, Thomas Rejent, Diana Schell, and Everett Solomons) will be observed at the President's Banquet this evening. *Refer to the slide deck at the end of the Minutes for the full report.*
7. Treasurer's Report *Tate Yeatman*
  - a. Treasurer Yeatman recognized the hard work of the Finance Committee. Although these have been trying times, SOFT does remain sound financially. The SOFT bank account balance was \$1,514,425.92 as of 9/20/21. Yeatman reviewed the budget – actual and year-end projection. Despite everyone's best efforts there is a bit of a shortfall this year, however due to the success of SOFTember, SOFT has overall done well over the past two years. SOFT has submitted paperwork to the IRS to become a 501c3 (non-profit) organization. This has the potential to provide SOFT with a significant tax savings.  
*Refer to the slide deck at the end of the Minutes for the full report.*
8. President-Elect's (Committee/Liaisons) Report *Robert Sears*

[Note: Each committee chair thanked committee members.]

  - a. Awards *Tim Rohrig*
    - i. 2020 ERA/Y SMA: Two of last year's award winners were present to be recognized in person:



# 2021 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

1. ERA – PhD – Ashley Gesseck from Virginia Commonwealth University mentored by Dr. Michelle Peace. Her presentation was entitled - Analyzing Drugs in Neonates using Oral fluid and Urine to Develop a Prediction Model for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Assess the Implications in Forensic Toxicology
2. Young Scientist Meeting Award – Megan Farley from the San Francisco Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, recommended by her supervisor Dr. Luke Rodda. Her presentation was entitled - A Single Blood and Urine Method of All Recommended and Additional Impairing Drugs in DUID Case-work
- ii. 2021 ERA/YSMA: No applicants for the YSMA this year. Award winners for the ERA were:
  1. ERA – PhD – Kaitlyn Palmquist from Sam Houston State University mentored by Dr. Madeleine Swortwood. Her presentation was entitled - Quantification of Fentanyl Analogs in Oral Fluid Using LC-QTOF-MS
  2. ERA – MS – Erica Sales from Virginia Commonwealth University mentored by Dr. Michelle Peace. Her presentation was entitled – Analysis of Ethanol Aerosolized in an Electronic Cigarette by Headspace Gas Chromatography-Flame Ionization Detector (GC-FID) and Particle Size Analysis
- iii. 2021 Annual Awards (new this year):
  1. SOFT Young Forensic Toxicologist Service Award – Dani Mata
  2. SOFT Research in Forensic Toxicology Award – Alex Krotulski
  3. SOFT Distinguished Service Award – Chip Walls
  4. SOFT Teaching and Mentoring Award – Michelle Peace
- b. Publications *Justin Poklis*
  - i. The committee works with Beth Olson to make JAT continuing education opportunities available through the website. This year there will be six opportunities, with over 1000 continuing education hours awarded from the last six CE opportunities. If anyone has difficulty, please email Poklis or CC Watson.
    1. JAT Special Issue Editor Alex Krotulski thanked all those who assisted him. Twenty-seven articles were submitted, with twenty-one articles accepted. The committee chose not to award the EDIT award this year. Krotulski was presented with a plaque by Bruce Goldberger on behalf of JAT and with an award by President Miles on behalf of SOFT.
- c. Continuing Education *Robert Johnson*
  - i. The committee has hosted two webinars this year, one in conjunction with the Designer Drugs Committee and the other with YFT. There will be a joint webinar with TIAFT in honor of Randy Baselt later this year.
- d. Culture, Values and Diversity *Michelle Peace*
  - i. Committee goals this year are to create initiatives that are manageable and positively impact the SOFT membership, to provide training to the BOD that offers tools for best practices and benefits of fostering an inclusive environment, and to provide training to the CVD committee that offers a basis for developing meaningful and measurable goals. The committee has selected an agency to provide this training.
- e. Designer Drugs *Dani Mata*
  - i. The committee held successful workshops at AAFS and SOFT. They also held a webinar. An NPS benzodiazepines review article is in progress. Website links have been reviewed and still work. Please contact Mata with any questions about the committee.
- f. Drugs and Driving *Curt Harper*
  - i. There are approximately 20 members on the committee. The committee sponsored two workshops this year, at IACT and SOFT. They also plan to participate in the webinar honoring Dr. Baselt. Harper will rotate off the committee at the end of the year and Dayong Lee will become Chair.
- g. Drug Facilitated Crimes *Teri Stockham (for Lisa Reidy)*
  - i. The committee published several articles in ToxTalk. They have updated literature on the website. They received more than 70 responses to their survey on DFC protocols and testing platforms. The committee has published a DFC interview example form on the website. Additionally, Stockham reminded the membership that the website contains a drug bibliography, DFS recommended cutoffs and fact sheets.
- h. Ethics *Jennifer Limoges*
  - i. No investigations this year.
- i. Meeting Resource Committee *Marc LeBeau*
  - i. The committee is working to select locations for the 2025 and 2026 annual meetings. They are trying to do a joint meeting with TIAFT in 2026.
  - ii. A video promoting the 2022 meeting in Cleveland was shown (hosts Doug Rohde and Shelly Merves).

# 2021 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

- j. Mentoring *Michelle Peace*
- i. The Committee held a webinar series for participants to help mentor/mentee pairs with their goals. They partnered with SOFTopics for a book club discussion and collaborated with YFT for an activity in their symposium. Peace commented that it is a very forward-thinking committee with great plans for the coming year. She urged members to consider participating, noting that age doesn't need to determine whether you are a mentor or a mentee (one mentee is > 60 years old).
- k. Nominating *Suman Rana*
- i. Slate for consideration:
    1. President-Elect: Erin Spargo
    2. Secretary: Chris Heartsill
    3. Director: Bill Johnson and Jeri Roper-Miller
- l. Oral Fluid Committee *Curt Harper (for Christine Moore)*
- i. There are sixteen members on the committee. There were 68 attendees at their SOFT workshop. The second version of the "Oral Fluid Drug Testing Pilot Project Guidelines for DUI/D Investigations" was completed and uploaded to the website. The AAA handbook on oral fluid in DUID cases for law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, attorneys, and toxicologists is being finalized. The NSC-ADID group published scope and cut-off recommendations for DUID including oral fluid in the Journal of Analytical Toxicology. At the end of this year, Moore will rotate off the committee, and Harper will move into the Chair position.
- m. Postmortem *Joe Kahl*
- i. The Board approved this new committee this year. They had their first meeting at SOFT. They are working on their mission statement and committee handbook.
- n. SOFTopics *Dani Mata*
- i. This was started during SOFTember last year. It is similar to the Elmer Gordon forum but is held virtually and covers specific topics; participants break down into smaller groups with moderators. A variety of SOFTopics were held this year, including one in conjunction with the YFT webinar and a book club discussion with the Mentoring Committee. Mata encouraged participation in SOFTopics.
- o. Toxicology Resource Committee *Amy Miles*
- i. This committee was stood up last year by then President Rana. The goals of the committee are to identify gaps in publicly funded forensic toxicology labs and to target resources to assist in furthering the science of forensic toxicology. This committee also provides guidance regarding available funding sources, compiles information about existing grant opportunities, provides direction and assistance in filing grants for first time applicants, and facilitates mutually beneficial partnerships with stakeholders to advocate for forensic laboratories and foster innovative ideas to further forensic toxicology. The committee consists of members throughout their careers and who work at a variety of different types of labs/agencies. They sent out a survey to publicly funded labs across the county to better understand their needs.
- p. ToxTalk *Robert Johnson*
- i. There were many great submissions this year and Johnson encouraged continued submissions. Johnson specifically thanked CC Watson for her hard work on the publication.
- q. Young Forensic Toxicologists (YFT) *Vanessa Meneses*
- i. They held a webinar in conjunction with the Continuing Education Committee. They held the YFT symposium, Professional Development Fair, and Student Enrichment Program at SOFT. The Leo Dal Cortivo award winners will be announced at President's Banquet.
- r. Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations (CFSO) Liaison *Tim Rohrig*
- i. The purpose of the CFSO is to speak with a single forensic science voice in matters of mutual interests to its member organizations, to influence public policy at the national level, and to make a compelling case for greater federal funding for public crime laboratories and medical examiner offices. The primary focus of the CFSO is local, state, and national policymakers, as well as the United States. Their lobbyist has been very active. This year they redesigned the website ([www.thecfso.org](http://www.thecfso.org)). CFSO is very transparent to member organizations about how money is spent. Three white papers were sent to Congress. Letters have been sent to Congress and a meeting was held with CFSO/ member organization presidents and senior majority and minority staffers of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

# 2021 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

## s. (OSAC) FSSB Liaison

*Laurel Farrell*

- i. SOFT has a designated spot on the FSSB. Farrell thanked SOFT for supporting her in this role. SOFT is well represented on the OSAC. Tox subcommittee has outperformed many others since the beginning of the OSAC; kudos to those on the committee. The standards are thoughtful, well developed, and appropriately set minimum standards. Please contact Farrell or others on the OSAC if interested in getting involved. Today is officially Farrell's last day as liaison; Sarah Kerrigan starts October 1.

## 9. Announcements

*Amy Miles*

- a. Marc LeBeau – TIAFT will hold a virtual meeting "Around the World in 80 Talks" on February 1-3, 2022 ([www.tiaftvirtual.com](http://www.tiaftvirtual.com))
- b. Madeleine Swortwood – AAFS 2022 Annual Meeting will have in person and remote options – February 21-25, 2021
- c. Robert Johnson – encouraged participation in the public comment portion of the OSAC/ ASB standards review process
- d. Bruce Goldberger – ABFT has resumed in person testing (23 individuals took exam this week). Can also administer the exam where you are with an appropriate ABFT proctor. There are currently over 500 certificants, with 32 accredited laboratories.
- e. Pat Harding – Borkenstein Alcohol Course will be held December 5-10, 2021 and May 16-20, 2022 (in person) and the Drug Course will be held the week of September 26, 2022 (Philadelphia, with hybrid option)
- f. Curt Harper- IACT will be held April 10-15, 2022 in Tucson, AZ

## 10. Unfinished Business (none)

*Amy Miles*

## 11. New Business

*Amy Miles*

- a. Recognition of Outgoing Officers
  - i. Sumandeep Rana (2020 President, Immediate Past President)
  - ii. Amy Miles (2021 President)
  - iii. Robert Sears (President-Elect)
  - iv. Erin Spargo (Secretary)
  - v. Fiona Couper (Director)
    1. Madeline Montgomery will remain on the Board to finish Director Couper's term
  - vi. Mick Smith (Counselor)

## 12. Elections

*Amy Miles*

- a. President-Elect: Erin Spargo
  - i. So moved – Dwain Fuller, Second – Marilyn Huestis. Elected by acclamation.
- b. Secretary: Chris Heartsill
  - i. So moved – Dwain Fuller, Second – Marilyn Huestis. Elected by acclamation.
- c. Director: Jeri Roper-Miller
  - i. So moved – Dwain Fuller, Second – Marilyn Huestis. Elected by acclamation.
- d. Director: Bill Johnson
  - i. So moved – Dwain Fuller, Second – Marilyn Huestis. Elected by acclamation.

## 13. Incoming President's Remarks

*Robert Sears*

- a. President-Elect Sears thanked those that are attending this meeting. He noted that he attended his first SOFT meeting in 1994. He believes SOFT is thriving due to its members, student affiliates, vendors, and meeting attendees and he is thankful to be part of this organization. He encouraged members to reach out to first time



# IN MEMORIAM



**JOHN SOPER, PH.D., F-ABFT**

Submitted By Russell Lewis

John Wayne Soper, a life-long scientist and dear friend to many at SOFT, passed away on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022. John will be missed by everyone who knew him.

John Soper, PhD, graduated from Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma with a BA degree in Chemistry in 1967. He received his PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in 1973. His post-doctoral fellowship was with the Department of Biological Chemistry at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine from 1973-1978. Dr. Soper has been an instructor at several universities including Mt. Sinai Medical School, the United States Naval Academy and the University of Maryland School of Medicine. From 1982 – 1986, he worked for the Maryland State Medical Examiner's Office as an Assistant Toxicologist, Serologist. Dr. Soper was the Laboratory Director for the National Drug Assessment in Oklahoma City from 1986 – 1994. In 1994, he came to work at the FAA's Bioaeronautical Sciences Research Laboratory as a Research Chemist.

Throughout his career, Dr. Soper has used his extensive analytical knowledge and experience to improve laboratory practice. He was heavily

involved in laboratory accreditation processes for the College of American Pathologists, the American Board of Forensic Toxicology, and the National Institute on Drug Abuse/ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Dr. Soper was a member of numerous professional organizations and societies and is involved in the Scientific Working Group in Toxicology for the Certification/QC Committee. He has assisted the FAA's Drug Abatement Program, US Army Trial Defense Service, Department of Homeland Security, and the State of Oklahoma Indigent Services on various occasions. Dr. Soper has authored/co-authored 55 journal articles, book chapters, and presentations.

Dr. Soper held 8 board certifications: Diplomate, American Board of Bioanalysis - Clinical Consultant (DABB-CC); Diplomate, American Board of Bioanalysis – High Complexity Laboratory Director (DABB-CC); Diplomate, Forensic Toxicology Certification Board (DFTCB-FDT); Fellow, American Board of Forensic Toxicology (F-ABFT); Diplomate, American Board of Clinical Chemistry (DABB-CC-TC); Fellow, American Institute of Chemists (FAIC); Fellow, National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry (FACB); Diplomate, American Board of Clinical Chemistry (DABCC-CC).

In addition to his many academic and professional accomplishments, Dr. Soper was a dear friend to so many. His caring nature and willingness to help people will always be remembered by those who knew him. Please remember his wife, Chris, and the Soper family in your

thoughts and prayers.

<https://www.ingramsmithturner.com/obituary/John-Soper?fbclid=IwAR1jCFHNxfWHdiy-OfcAUlsYp18aHb7nnXTaptX-GYMxcZ8-V1MemmAoggWCE>

# IN MEMORIAM



**CHARLES L. WINEK PH.D.**

Submitted by Francis Esposito and Tony Costantino

Our community has lost a world-renowned forensic toxicologist and one of SOFT's Charter members Charles Leone Winek, Ph.D. Dr. Winek (Charlie or Chuck) passed away on December 26, 2021 at the age of 85. Husband of 61 years to Molly; father to Tracey, Charles L. Jr (Duffy) and Michael; and adored by 8 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

The life story and many contributions of Dr. Winek are too long to include here but in summary following his B.S. in Pharmacy and M.S. at Duquesne University, and doctoral degree at Ohio State University, he worked one year for Procter and Gamble and then returned to teach at his alma mater for 38 years. Three years into teaching he also became the Chief Toxicologist for Allegheny County that served Pittsburgh and most of western PA and then as Director of the Department of Laboratories that included the toxicology, crime and health labs for a total of 32 years. His CV listed over 120 papers published in scientific and peer reviewed journals many of which centered on ethanol studies from stability and interpretation, to novel analytical methods in alternate matrices such as bone marrow and synovial fluid. One publication that many may have in their labs is the

reference chart "Drug and Chemical Blood Level Chart" that reflects normal, toxic and lethal levels of drugs and chemicals. Dr. Winek authored, co-authored, or contributed to over 30 books and over 50 papers presented at meetings that frequently included research presented by the 67 M.S. graduate students he taught many of which went on to get advanced degrees in medicine or a Ph.D. degree in various disciplines. For those he advised and guided their research project, he found financial aid for the student and provided jobs in the County's forensic toxicology lab or in his privately owned lab so students could learn beyond the classroom and get valuable bench experience. Besides publishing, Dr. Winek served as referee, editorial board member, and was the Toxicology Editor for Forensic Science International. He had 34 Consultant and Committee Appointments in various organizations. He was a member of 24 scientific organizations (which may explain the need for two jobs to pay for membership fees) to include AAFS (Fellow) and ABFT.

The numbers above are astonishing for a single person. Of all the positions he held and contributions to science, he was most proud of the 16 awards he received over his lifetime. He was honored near the end of his career in 2008 with the Rolla N. Harger Award bestowed to members of the AAFS Toxicology Section for outstanding contributions to forensic toxicology through education, advancement of the profession and analytical achievements. His most beloved award was from Duquesne University Century Club as "Distinguished Alumnus." Not all the awards were scientific such as the "President's Award for Excellence in

Community Service" by Duquesne University. One item of this award was in recognition of the many evenings and weekends that he traveled to communities in western PA to speak to a full auditorium of parents on the signs and symptoms of drug use by their children and how their children may be using household products such as aerosol cans or hobby glue to obtain a high. And to the teenagers the consequences of drug use with a non-censored slide show of vivid images that one can only obtain while working in a morgue.

Dr. Winek's signature look was holding his pipe while trying to light the sweet smelling cherry blend tobacco. It was rumored that there were tobacco fields named in his honor and he was responsible for the growing popularity of the cocktail Rusty Nail, but yet humble enough to drink Straub beer from St. Mary's, PA. Finally, to those who knew him well, he was forthwith that he was of Polish decent but attributes many of his more admirable traits to the influence of the neighborhood he grew up in at Erie, PA, which consisted of all Italians.

# CONTINUING EDUCATION



## STATE OF DRUG-FACILITATED CRIMES TESTING - 2022 WEBINAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 31 - 12:30-3:00 PM EASTERN  
ONLINE VIA ZOOM AND ON-DEMAND

### ABSTRACT:

Toxicology continues to be an important part of the investigation into drug-facilitated crimes. The SOFT DFC Committee has resources to aid toxicologists in their DFC work. Education on specimen collection and drugs of interest continue to be important aspects of a toxicologist's interaction with other professionals in DFC casework. The first national standard set the bar for DFC testing in urine in 2021. Achieving this standard is possible using tools found in most toxicology laboratories.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After attending this course, participants will:

- Be aware of SOFT DFC Committee activities and resources
- Grasp the importance of intake information in DFC testing
- Understand the national standards for DFC testing
- Analyze drug trends in DFC testing
- Apply strategies for DFC testing

### INSTRUCTORS:

Lisa Reidy – Director of Toxicology, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine  
Celeste Wareing – Criminalist II, New Hampshire State Police Forensic Laboratory  
Madeline Montgomery – Unit Chief, FBI Laboratory  
Jeffrey Walterscheid – Chief Toxicologist, Armed Forces Medical Examiner System  
Dimitri Gerostamoulos – Chief Toxicologist, Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine  
Kristin Kahl – Toxicologist, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

### AGENDA: (TIMES ARE EASTERN)

- 12:30-12:35 pm: Introduction/ Laureen Marinetti and Madeline Montgomery
- 12:35–12:55: SOFT DFC Committee Resources and Questionnaire Results/Lisa Reidy
- 12:55-1:10: DFC Samples and Information – Importance of Collection/Celeste Wareing

- 1:10-1:30: ASB Standard for Analytical Scope and Sensitivity/ Madeline Montgomery
- 1:30-1:45 pm: Break
- 1:45-2:05 pm: Drug Trends in DFC – US/Jeffrey Walterscheid
- 2:05-2:25 pm: Drug Trends in DFC – Australia Perspective/Dimitri Gerostamoulos
- 2:25-2:45: Analytical Strategies for DFC Testing/Kristin Kahl
- 2:45-3:00 pm: Q&A Session and Wrap-Up/All Speakers

Webinar Location: Online via Zoom  
Registration Fee: \$25 SOFT members; \$35 non-members  
Workshop Chairs: Madeline Montgomery and Laureen Marinetti  
Continuing Education Committee Chair: Dr. Robert Johnson

[REGISTER HERE](#)



# CONTINUING EDUCATION



## 2022: RAISING THE BAR IN PRODUCTIVITY AND EFFICIENCY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17  
11:00 AM PACIFIC/2:00 PM EASTERN

Happy New Year SOFT Members! If your resolution this year is to increase lab efficiency, this is the SOFTopics you've been waiting for! Our next discussion will center around ways to make your lab more efficient. Topics to discuss may include method efficiency, data analysis improvements, and implementation of software or electronic tools. So here's to "2022: Raising the Bar in Productivity and Efficiency."

SOFTopics began during 2020's SOFTember as a platform to encourage some social interaction in a very virtual world. This event is an open forum style discussion, where a topic is specified as the focus for a given session. Participants can discuss the topic with colleagues, or bring their own related questions to the group. SOFTopics will take place over ZOOM, which will allow for smaller break-out groups and a more intimate discus-

sion. We encourage participation from everyone, but please remember this is not a platform to solicit products or services.

See you for our next SOFTopics on February 17, 2022 at 11:00 am Pacific/2:00 pm Eastern. **SOFTopics is offered at no cost to all SOFT members!**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

[SOFTOPICS FAQ](#)

# APPLIED ANALYTICAL TOXICOLOGY COMMITTEE

The SOFT Board of Directors recently approved the creation of an ad-hoc applied analytical toxicology committee, and applications for membership are currently being accepted.

The mission of the committee is to serve as a resource and means of information exchange in the area of applied analytical toxicology research.

The committee will focus on the expansion of existing methodologies and the validation of new techniques for forensic toxicology laboratories. The committee is looking to fill 8-10 seats with members of the forensic toxicology community who have relevant experience in postmortem/antemortem forensic toxicology, academic research in forensic toxicology, and/

or laboratory method development and validation. The committee is planning to meet virtually for the first time in late summer. Committee members will be encouraged to moderate and present at the upcoming SOFT meeting in Cleveland, OH. If you are interested in joining, please submit an application to be considered.

Questions? Please contact Becky Wagner at [becky.wagner@dfs.virginia.gov](mailto:becky.wagner@dfs.virginia.gov)

**THE DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MARCH 31, 2022!**

**APPLY HERE**

## NEW MEMBERS AND PROMOTIONS

A warm welcome to our new members and congratulations to our members that have promoted their membership! We look forward to a wonderful 2022 with you all.

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Ariana Marasco  
Melinda Hector

### FULL MEMBERSHIP

HEATHER BARKHOLTZ  
DONNA COY  
LARISSA KARAS  
YASHU MOHAN  
NIRANJAN PATEL  
LANCE PRESLEY  
ANUSHA RANKOTH  
JAMES SAILORS  
BRITTANY WELCH  
MADELEINE WOOD

### STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

ALLISON EKBERG  
JUAN RAMIREZ  
MACKENZIE SMITH

### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP? READY TO PROMOTE YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

SOFT is always accepting applications for membership. We offer five membership types; Associate, Full, Student, Emeritus, and Retired. All membership requirements and applications can be found on the SOFT Membership Page below.

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- A mailed print subscription of the *Journal of Analytical Toxicology* (JAT).
- Reduced registration fees for SOFT's Annual Meeting.
- Reduced registration fees for SOFT's regional workshops and webinars.
- FREE participation in the SOFTopics discussion group.
- Eligible for SOFT committee membership.
- Eligible for participation in SOFT's Professional Mentoring Program.
- Free participation in JAT Editor's Choice continuing education opportunity.

**LEARN MORE HERE**

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHRIS HEARTSILL - CHAIR  
KARI MIDTHUN  
HEIDI CHRISTENSEN  
KATHERINE DOZIER

## 2021 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

AWARDS COMMITTEE : TIM ROHRIG

CFSO LIAISON: TIM ROHRIG

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: MATT JUHASICK

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE: ROBERT JOHNSON

CULTURE, VALUES AND DIVERSITY COMMITTEE: SAMANTHA  
TOLLIVER AND GAIL COOPER

DRUG FACILITATED CRIMES COMMITTEE: LISA REIDY

DRUGS & DRIVING COMMITTEE: DAYONG LEE AND NICK  
TISCIONE

ETHICS COMMITTEE: MADELINE MONTGOMERY

FINANCE COMMITTEE: TATE YEATMAN

MEETING RESOURCE COMMITTEE: MARC LEBEAU

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: CHRIS HEARTSILL

MENTORING COMMITTEE: KIM SAMANO AND COURTNEY  
WARDWELL

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: AMY MILES

NPS COMMITTEE: DANI MATA AND KAYLA ELLEFSEN

ORAL FLUID COMMITTEE: CURT HARPER AND MADELEINE  
SWORTWOOD

POLICIES & PROCEDURES COMMITTEE: CHRIS HEARTSILL

POSTMORTEM TOXICOLOGY COMMITTEE: JOE KAHL AND  
SAMANTHA TOLLIVER

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE: STEPHEN RASO

SOFTOPICS: DANI MATA, VANESSA MENESES, AND ALANNA  
DEKOROMPAY

TOXICOLOGY RESOURCE COMMITTEE: AMY MILES

YOUNG FORENSIC TOXICOLOGISTS COMMITTEE: AMANDA  
RAUSCH

## FUTURE SOFT MEETINGS

2022

HUNTINGTON CONVENTION CENTER, CLEVELAND, OH  
OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 4, 2022  
DOUG ROHDE AND SHELLY CROSBY

2023

GAYLORD ROCKIES, DENVER, CO  
OCTOBER 29-NOVEMBER 3, 2023  
DAN ANDERSON AND JARRAD WAGNER

2024

UNION STATION, ST. LOUIS, MO  
OCT 27-NOV 2  
SARAH RILEY AND JUSTIN POKLIS

## TOXTALK

TOXTALK® is the official publication of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists and is published quarterly. To submit articles please email CC Watson at [cc@soft-tox.org](mailto:cc@soft-tox.org) For advertising opportunities please email Beth Olson at [beth@soft-tox.org](mailto:beth@soft-tox.org)

DEADLINES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS:

ISSUE 1: SUBMISSION DUE BY FEB. 11

ISSUE 2: SUBMISSION DUE BY MAY 23

ISSUE 3: SUBMISSION DUE BY SEP. 9

ISSUE 4: SUBMISSION DUE BY DEC. 8

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