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Academy of Toxicological Sciences  
1821 Michael Faraday Drive, Suite 300  
Reston, VA 20190  
Phone: 703/488-3103  
<http://www.acadtoxsci.org>

# AcadToxSci News

## President's Message

I. Glenn Sipes

It is a pleasure for me to write this President's message for the ATS newsletter. To begin, I would like to stress that ATS is a unique organization within the professional toxicology community. Senior toxicologists, in the broadest sense, become Fellows of ATS after a rigorous and objective assessment of their professional standing. A potential Fellows' standing is assessed by using the **KELI Method** of review which takes into account the applicants **Knowledge, Experience, Leadership, and Involvement** in their respective discipline. Thus, it should be a high honor to be designated a Fellow of ATS. As Fellows, we should value, utilize, and promote ATS. The more I have been involved with ATS, the more I realize the value of being designated a Fellow. I hope all of you use the term Fellow ATS (or FATS) on your business cards, on correspondence, and on documents you review and approve. The more visible ATS becomes, the more valuable this designation is to our professional careers. More will be presented on increasing the visibility of ATS in this newsletter.

My year as President of ATS seemed to fly. It was an honor for me to serve in this capacity. We have had some successes this year, which are highlighted here and throughout the newsletter. I would like to thank my fellow "Fellows" for this honor. Also I must thank the Board of Director's for their hard work and dedication and Nichelle Sankey, the executive director of ATS.

One of the goals for this year was to increase the membership of ATS. Eleven new fellows were approved by the Board. Four Fellows were elected to emeritus status, and we are saddened to report the loss of two esteemed colleagues. Although the membership did increase over the year, there is still room for growth since there is no set limit on the number of members. The critical issue is that one must meet the criteria that are rather well outlined in the application. I have challenged each member of the Board of Directors to seek out and nominate one qualified, senior toxicologist for consideration. You, as Fellows, are also encouraged to submit the names of your colleagues as potential members. Any member of the Board will be happy to "pre-review" any application. Your nominations can be sent directly to any Board members, or to ATS HQ.

Another goal for the year was to increase the financial base of ATS. Our yearly membership dues just cover the costs to administer the membership services for the Academy (of administration). Therefore, we sought other sources of revenue. In the annual invoice for membership dues, I asked for donations above and beyond the dues. Sixteen fellows made generous donations that totaled \$1950. In addition, as reported elsewhere, an additional donation of \$5000 was received. The good thing about being an organization without major assets is that we weathered the recent Wall Street disaster very well. Our modest principal was maintained. I thank our benefactors for their support of ATS and hope their generosity will serve as a challenge to others.

The additional funds that are now available will be used by the Board to enhance the visibility of ATS. The Board can budget \$2,500-\$3,000 per year for the next three years to fund student or postdoctoral travel awards (i.e. **The ATS Travel Award**) or sponsor symposia, workshops, and roundtables at such meetings as ACT, Asiattox, Eurotox, IUTOX, and SOT. As ATS becomes more visible on the international scene, its membership can grow internationally.

As you can see from the activities listed in this President’s message it is our goal to continue and expand the success of ATS. The success of these goals depend on maintaining a stable, involved, and supportive membership that includes having funds to support the discipline of toxicology and, at the same time, increase the visibility of ATS. As ATS becomes more widely recognized, the value of the designation - Fellow ATS - will be greatly increased.

The remainder of this Newsletter contains information on Board activities, new fellows, members of the current and future Board and some general interest news.

## Funding Long-Range Planning Initiatives

During the summer, the Board met to discuss several administrative matters including the ATS membership dues. During these deliberations, it became apparent that our current dues structure was not adequate to cover administrative costs and operations. Therefore, the Board increased the Annual Dues by a small amount from \$100 to \$125 for the 2008-2009 dues

cycle. We are pleased to note that the current dues structure will remain steady for 2009-2010.

We are confident that this small increase will allow us to increase the visibility of ATS, and, at the same time, promote the discipline of toxicology. The Board is currently exploring our continued support of talented postdoctoral students to provide funds to attend meetings such as ACT as well as other program areas. With our growing membership and financial commitments from other organizations, we can again begin thinking about our contributions to other Societies that share our common goals to promote the value, discipline, and diversity relevant to the field of toxicology. The Board has set a goal to partner with organizations who share a similar vision to continue the important work underway in the scientific community. As a result we have forged a strong partnership with **Dr. Ladd Smith**, Research Institute for Fragrance Materials, and are delighted that Dr. Smith has generously agreed to provide to ATS a \$5,000 donation to fund emerging initiatives.

### *Election Highlights*

#### **ATS Officers**

- Barbara Beck – President-Elect
- William J. Brock – Vice President-Elect
- Peter Goering – Secretary/Treasurer

#### **Incoming ATS Board of Directors**

In February, ATS Fellows cast their ballots to elect new members to serve on the ATS Board of Directors. The ballot included an impressive list of candidates who desire to serve the membership. We are pleased to welcome **Daniel Acosta, Meryl Karol, James C. Lamb, IV, and José Manautou** to serve on the ATS Board. In addition, Dr. **Michael Aschner**, Vanderbilt University, agreed to serve on the Board after **Linda Birnbaum** resigned to serve as the NIEHS Director. Michael’s term began in February and will end in June 2012.

These newly elected Officers and Board Members will begin their terms on **July 1<sup>st</sup>**. They will be joined by Glenn Sipes, Past-President, James Bus, Peter Goering, and Ruth Roberts as continuing directors.

#### **In Service to You**

We want to keep you informed about all of the exciting initiatives and general information relative your Academy. Please make sure that your contact information, including an email address, is up-to-date in the online Membership Directory within the Fellow Service Center. If you’ve forgotten your password, please contact Nichelle Sankey ([nsankey@aim-hq.com](mailto:nsankey@aim-hq.com)) at ATS HQ for assistance.

## State of the ATS

Congratulations to the new Fellows inducted in 2008 and 2009. Thanks to the addition of these new Fellows our membership roster has grown to include over **232 Fellows**. Please congratulate these individuals on becoming Fellows of ATS in 2008 and 2009.

### New Fellows

Daniel Acosta  
Syed Ali  
Scott Burchiel  
Matthew Bogdanffy  
Michael Cunningham  
Ramesh Gupta  
John Lipscomb  
Terrence J. Monks  
Christopher Teaf  
Raymond York  
Helmut Zarbl

### Emeritus Fellows

Erik Dybing  
Fred Johannsen  
Loren Koller  
Frederick Oehme

### In Memoriam

Bryan Ballantyne  
Mildred Christian

## Linda Birnbaum Named NIEHS Director

We are proud to recap the announcement that former ATS Board of Directors member, Dr. Linda S. Birnbaum, was named Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), headquartered in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. In her new role, Dr. Birnbaum will oversee a \$730 million budget that funds multidisciplinary biomedical research programs in the broad area of environmental health sciences. In addition to research funding, NIEHS has active programs that encompass training, education, technology transfer, and in the broad area of environmental health sciences. Dr. Birnbaum's broad experiences gained at NIEHS and EPA will serve her well as she assumes this important leadership position so critical to the discipline of toxicology.

## ATS Member Matthew Bogdanffy Named SOT Councilor

The ATS Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Matthew Bogdanffy has been appointed to serve as a Councilor for the Society of Toxicology. Matt's term will begin on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## A Debt of Gratitude

*ATS Secretary/Treasurer  
Marion F. Ehrich*

Business as usual, you ask? Not under these circumstances. We owe a debt of gratitude to Marion for her diligence for ensuring that the ATS finances remained in a growth pattern. We weathered the economic downturn with our principal intact.

## President Honored at 2009 Reception

Dr. Barbara Beck presented Dr. I. Glenn Sipes with a plaque to honor Dr. Sipes' outstanding service as the 2008-2009 ATS President. To view a list of the Past Presidents of the Academy since 1981, and their year of service, please visit the ATS Website at [www.acadtoxsci.org/board.asp](http://www.acadtoxsci.org/board.asp).

*Do you have member news that you'd like to share? Send your information to ATS HQ ([nsankey@aim-hq.com](mailto:nsankey@aim-hq.com)) to be posted in the next Newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you.*

# 2009 ATS Business Meeting and Reception Highlights

In looking for a host site for the 2009 Annual Business Meeting and Reception, two things came to mind. The membership's desire to explore a non-hotel venue, as well as blending the host city's cuisine into the reception. Well, we accomplished both of those goals for the 2009 Annual Business Meeting and Reception. This year, the ATS Fellows were welcomed to Phillips Seafood Restaurant located on the Harbor.

Over 60 Fellows were able to join us for the event, which took place on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 PM to 9:30 PM. During this meeting the gavel was formally passed from Glenn Sipes to Barbara Beck who will lead the Academy when her term begins July 1, 2009. Glenn had this to say about his tenure as President for the Academy. "It was a privilege to serve ATS as a Director and President." And, he encouraged all Fellows in attendance to serve and support ATS. He also asked them to provide input as to the type of programs and activities that would benefit them as fellows and also serve the discipline of toxicology.

The Academy would like to thank CANTOX for their generous support of ATS by underwriting the expense of the beverage service at the reception.

## A Tribute: Mildred Christian

Dr. Mildred Christian was a co-founder of Argus Research Laboratories in 1979 (now a Division of Charles River Laboratories) and President and CEO of Argus International, Inc.

Dr. Christian obtained her Ph.D. in developmental anatomy (teratology) from Thomas Jefferson University and was active in industrial toxicology for more than 30 years. She was a pioneer and internationally recognized expert in the field of reproductive toxicology and developmental toxicity. Since co-founding Argus Research Laboratories in 1979, and Argus International in 1980, she was personally involved in the conduct, evaluation and submission of over 1200 developmental, reproductive, and general toxicology evaluations performed in-house or under contract, from protocol to final report.

Dr. Christian was an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology at

Jefferson Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University since 1992 and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences since 1997. She was a certified Diplomate in General Toxicology, The Academy of Toxicological Sciences.

She was an active member of many professional organizations and the Founding Editor of the International Journal of the American College of Toxicology and was its Editor-in-Chief for 10 years. In addition to these many professional accomplishments, Mildred served as Secretary/Treasurer for the Academy as well as President 1996-1997. Her contributions were extensive in several American and international journals and major textbooks.

Dr. Christian was a friend, mentor, and inspiration to countless employees and fellow professionals including members of the Academy. She will be sorely missed.

In honor of Mildred, the Academy donated money to her church's preservation fund.

Kensington 'Old Brick' Methodist Church Preservation Fund  
P.O. Box 56  
Mechanicsville, PA 18934

# ATS Annual Business Meeting and Reception Photo Collage



*Barbara D. Beck* presents *I. Glenn Sipes* with the Presidential placque in honor of his service to the Academy. Glenn also received a crystal desk weight.



*Sidney Green* and *Donald Fox* discuss the issues over dessert.



*I. Glenn Sipes* presents *Charlene A. McQueen* with a crystal desk weight commemorating her service as ATS President (2007-2008)



*Linda Birnbaum* and *Donald Fox* discuss the issues important to the Academy.



*I. Glenn Sipes* welcomes Academy Fellows to the Annual Business Meeting and Reception hosted at Phillips Seafood Restaurant.



*James C. Lamb IV* leads the group in a discussion.



*I. Glenn Sipes and new Fellow Matthew Bogdanffy share a laugh.*

## Save the Date for Salt Lake – 2010 ATS Business Meeting and Reception

If we missed you at the 2009 Annual Business Meeting and Reception, please mark your calendars for the 2010 event in Salt Lake City. We will continue our tradition and hold this event on Wednesday, March 10, 2010. If you have suggestions for venues, please contact Nichelle Sankey ATS HQ via email at [nsankey@aim-hq.com](mailto:nsankey@aim-hq.com).



*Scott Burchiel and Michael Cunningham engage in the issues of the day.*