SETAC Committee Semi-Annual Report

AG/Committee Name: Endocrine Disrupter Testing and Risk Assessment (EDTRA)

Submitted by: Karen Kidd and Tom Hutchinson, Co-chairs  Date: 25 Oct 2015

Council/Board Liaison: Roel Evens

Executive Summary
The Global Advisory Group (AG) on Endocrine Disrupter Testing and Risk Assessment (EDTRA) was initiated in 2012, reflecting important scientific and regulatory developments and the growing number of SETAC members from Europe, North America and South East Asia engaged in this area of research and decision making. The aim of the EDTRA AG is to 1) Serve as a focal point within SETAC globally as a means of involving the membership in research and debate on endocrine disrupter risk assessment; 2) Stimulate critical assessment in order to establish the best available science; 3) Encourage the worldwide incorporation of the best available science and strategic approaches; 4) Advance the overall understanding of the fate, effects and potential risk assessment consequences of known and suspected endocrine disrupters; and, 5) Provide scientific support to ensure effective regulatory decision making. The AG meets these aims through the organization of technical sessions and courses at meetings, the production of technical papers and educational materials, and organization of discussion forums.

Organization
The Global AG on EDTRA was initiated in 2012, reflecting important scientific and regulatory developments and the growing number of SETAC members from Europe, North America and South East Asia engaged in this area of research and decision making. The Advisory Group is overseen by a Steering Committee with 19 members and that has two co-Chairs and representatives from all sectors and most geographic units of SETAC (see below for membership). The broader AG has XXX members.

Activities Summary
The current report covers activities of the EDTRA from the SETAC meeting in Barcelona, 2015, through to October, 2015, just prior to the face-to-face meeting in Salt Lake City. Some of the main topics of conversation in this committee have been the development of short courses on endocrine disrupters that could be used at the chapter level and for scientists and non-scientists alike, ED sessions for annual meetings, and workshops and focused topic meetings (especially an upcoming meeting on hazard versus risk assessment of EDCs) on critical issues related to ED.

1) A productive face-to-face meeting of the Advisory Group was held in Barcelona. Nineteen people attended and discussions included updates on activities, ways to improve communications, and proposed sessions for annual meetings.

2) A session on EDs was held in Barcelona – any input here?
3) The Steering Committee has been involved in reviewing documents generated from the Focused Topic Meeting “Endocrine Disruption: Chemical Testing, Risk Assessment Approaches and Implications” held 4-6 February, 2014 at the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) conference facility in Research Triangle Park, NC.

4) Based on discussions in Vancouver at the EDTRA meeting, a short course on endocrine disruption (taught by Ellen Mihaich) will be recorded in Salt Lake City, allowing it to be used as a webinar at regional chapter meetings etc.

5) Also stemming from the discussions at the Vancouver AG meeting, there will be 3 EDC sessions at the Salt Lake City meeting: “Lab Data, Hazard, Risk and Regulation of Endocrine Active Chemicals - So What? The Big Picture from Little Pieces”, “Recent advances in endocrine disruptor screening; applications for ecotoxicology”, and “It takes a scientific community: Weight of evidence assessments and potential follow up testing to elucidate endocrine disruption”.

6) Several members of the SC and broader AG have led the development of a new Pellston workshop on assessing hazard versus risk for endocrine disrupters. The main objective is to develop scientific case studies of both environmental hazard and risk assessment approaches applied to EDCs. These will use real-world data to evaluate different assessment methods which, conducted rigorously by global experts on EDCs, would give rise to authoritative guidance to regulators in this novel field. The 6 chemicals for the case studies have been chosen, invitees have been finalized, literature is being compiled and publications are being discussed.

7) A session on the findings of the Pellston workshop on hazard versus risk assessment has been proposed for the SETAC Europe meeting in spring 2016.

Future Plans

A key goal for the EDTRA for the next 6 months is to support the Pellston Workshop on hazard versus risk assessment for EDCs. The Steering Committee will be reviewing student applications to attend this workshop. In addition, Steering Committee membership will be reviewed and new members solicited as needed. At Salt Lake City, there will be discussion of new initiatives for the EDTRA Advisory Group including other short courses and outreach that could be developed related to EDCs, sessions to be proposed for upcoming annual meetings, targeted white papers, etc.

Business and Planning Meetings

This committee has two face-two-face meetings each year at SETAC Europe and North America meetings. In addition, there was one full-committee conference call in July, 2015 and email discussions within subcommittees between the Barcelona and Salt Lake City meetings. Our committee meeting in Salt Lake City is planned for Tuesday November 3 between 11:30-1:30 pm in room 251F.

Membership Communications

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Since the original idea of establishing this Global AG through to its formal launch in 2012, the feedback has been consistently positive from all sectors of the SETAC membership. Steering Committee business is done both through regular meetings and through emails among its members. The Communities website is used to post minutes and other documents for review by both the Steering Committee and the broader membership, and to email EDTRA members with general announcements. One of our Steering Committee members is also on the Human Health AG, providing a link between these groups.

One challenge has been to find ways to better engage the broader EDTRA membership in activities. As such, the Steering Committee has been reviewing how communications are done within other Advisory Groups and this is a point of ongoing discussion. The website for the AG was set up in September 2012 but the AG Steering Committee recognizes that more work needs to be done to increase the profile of our activities via this and other electronic media.

**Issues/Problems**

There are no issues to report.

**Current Committee**

*No. Steering Committee: 19*

*Total membership: XX*

*Current Steering Committee (all appointed from July 2014 or earlier)*

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<td>Heiko Schoenfuss, USA</td>
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<td>Karen Kidd, Canada (co-chair)</td>
<td>Mike Roberts, UK</td>
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<td>Ellen Mihaich, USA</td>
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<td>Henrik Holbech, Denmark</td>
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