

AG/Committee Name: Human Health Risk Assessment Advisory Group

Submitted by: Spencer Williams

Date: October 15, 2014

Council/Board Liaison: Pat Guiney

Organization: Human Health Risk Assessment Advisory Group

Group structure:

- Chair: Spencer Williams (Baylor University)
- Secretary: Bonnie Bailey

Steering Committee – members listed in section below

2014 Changes.

- Spencer Williams has assumed full duties as Chair of the AG. In 2012 he served as the AG Secretary, and in 2013 as the Co-Chair. Bonnie Bailey agreed to serve as the Secretary in 2014, but has had to resign as of September 2014. Several candidates have offered to serve as the Secretary to finish 2014 and into 2015.

Activities Summary

Activities include the following:

- Conducted monthly calls.
- Served as core group for joining and supporting SETAC's early participation in the World Health Organization's Chemical Risk Assessment Network. This included development of two proposals to support the goals of the WHOCRAN, and recruiting a representative to attend the October 2014 kickoff meeting.
- Endocrine Disrupting Compounds Work Group: This group appears to have stopped; Chair has been unable to receive feedback from the participants. This is probably attributable to the activities of the Global Endocrine Disruptor Testing and Risk Assessment Advisory Group. Spencer Williams has been recruited to serve on the Steering Committee of EDTRA AG.
- Spencer Williams also served as the liaison for HHRA to the TSCA Dialogue Group.
- The AG successfully raised sufficient funds to support two student travel awards. Donations from individuals were matched by Bruce Vigon for one award, and the American Cleaning Institute (Paul DeLeo) volunteered to donate sufficient funds for another.
 - Three submissions were received from SETAC, and one was selected by the Steering Committee. The winner of this year's award is Chris Leonetti of Duke University. We maintain sufficient funds to award another student travel award next year, and hope to raise funds for additional awards.
- The AG has been working on a group of submissions for SETAC's Global Horizon Scanning Exercise. Several questions have been received from the AG membership and are being reviewed.

Additional questions have been solicited from the Steering Committee and from the membership at large.

- SETAC NA 2014 annual meeting (Vancouver).
 - Nashville HHRA AG Business meeting planned.
 - The AG is still trying to recruit a speaker for this meeting. Bette Meek of University of Ottawa was sought for a presentation on aggregate dose analysis, but she will not be attending the meeting.
 - The HHRA AG Travel Award will be presented to Chris Leonetti (Duke) at the business meeting.
 - It is hoped that the business meeting will provide the AG an opportunity to finalize its submission to the Global Horizon Scanning Exercise.
 - Sponsored Sessions:
 - Bioavailability and Bioaccessibility: Critical Tools for Risk Management Decisions (Co-chairs: Glenn Hoeger, Spencer Williams)
 - PAHs in Urban and Remote Landscapes: An Old Story with New Twists (Co-chairs: Charlene Liu, Barbara Mahler, Judy Crane): Rolled into another session.
 - The Role of Risk Communication in Environmental Policy and Remedial Decision-Making (Co-chairs: Ruddle Clarkson, Nemrata Sengupta)
 - Regional Fish Consumption, Bioaccumulation, and Risk Management Decisions as Drivers of Human Health Based Water Quality Criteria and Sediment Cleanup Levels (Co-chairs: Nancy Judd, Yvette Lowney)
 - Two additional submitted sessions were not populated sufficiently to be included in the program.
- SETAC HHRA AG and SOT RAAS joint session presented at SOT's annual meeting in Phoenix, AZ. Challenges Facing the Next Generation of Risk Assessment. Chairs: Robinan Gentry (ENVIRON) and Betty Locey (ARCADIS). Provisional co-chair: Spencer Williams (Baylor University).

Coordination with Other Advisory Groups and Committees

- Global EDTRA: Spencer Williams serves on Steering Committee.
- WHO Chemical Risk Assessment Network: AG served as the core for early activities involved in SETAC's WHOCRAN membership.
- TSCA Dialog Group: Spencer Williams serves in group.
- SETAC HHRA AG and SOT RAAS 2014 joints sessions as described above coordinated by Betty Locey.

Future Plans

- Joint session with SOT RAAS discussed above.
- Ongoing participation in WHOCRAN.
- Outreach to ISES and SRA, and continuing relationship with SOT's Risk Assessment Specialty Section.

Business and Planning Meetings

As discussed above:

- Monthly calls

- Business meeting at the Nashville annual meeting.

Membership Communications

Effective communications:

- Monthly calls.
- Member discussions focused on specific topics and missions.
- Group emails.

Issues/Problems

The AG is still finding its place within the Society. Most agree that none of the other professional societies serve as an appropriate platform for risk assessment as a whole (SOT: dose-response assessment, hazard assessment; SRA: statistical analysis and higher-tier modeling; ISES: exposure science). The membership believes that SETAC can be a destination for those of us who practice risk assessment, but this is not a quick or easy accomplishment. Outreach continues to risk professionals to highlight the opportunity that SETAC presents to our profession. The dominance of the ERAAG in SETAC is a difficult issue; a merger had been suggested, but concern was expressed that human health-centric issues would quickly disappear under such a model.

Scientific issues are certainly available for advancement by the AG, but little progress has been made at this point in developing workshops or other technical meetings for bioavailability or other issues of interest to the group. The Chair needs to do a better job of engaging the Steering Committee in initiatives such as these.

Current Steering Committee

Steering Committee:

- Pat Guiney (University of Wisconsin)
- Joyce Donohue (USEPA)
- Charlene Liu (new affiliation not available)
- Ruddle Clarkson (ENVIRON)
- Betty Locey (Psi Consulting)
- Paul Price (Dow Chemical Co)
- Harvey Clewell (Hamner Institutes for Health Sciences)

- Len Ritter (U. of Guelph)

No. active members: Total membership (from Your Membership AG directory):

We have over 100 members listed in the group directory we maintain. Approximately 10-15 people participate in monthly calls.