



ToxTalk

The official publication of the SOCIETY OF FORENSIC TOXICOLOGISTS, INC.

Volume 30 No. 3

3rd QUARTER 2006

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ToxTalk 30th Anniversary Continues!

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SOFT 2006 Annual Meeting
AUSTIN, TEXAS
October 3 – 7, 2006



ToxTalk is mailed quarterly (bulk mail) to members of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc. It is each member's responsibility to report changes of address to the SOFT mailing address (Mesa, AZ – above). Non-members may now receive ToxTalk for \$15 per calendar year. Make your check payable to SOFT and mail to 5304 Widener Strip, Midland, TX 79707. Subscriptions expire each January.

DEADLINES: Feb. 1, May 1, July 15, and Nov. 1

NEXT DEADLINE: November 1, 2006

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Timothy Rohrig, Ph.D., DABFT



It seems like we were just enjoying the new growth of Spring and now – Summer is upon us. As the temperatures rise during this time of the year – so do the activities in SOFT as we look ahead to Austin in October and settle into our new office in Phoenix.

Vicki Watts [SOFT Meeting Coordinator], Lisa O'Dell [SOFT Vendor Liaison] and Rod McCutcheon [Meeting Host], along with his team, are putting the final touches on what is going to be another exciting and full scientific meeting. In conjunction with the SOFT meeting, the organization is hosting a Silent Auction. As we all remember – our family recently said goodbye to two of its leaders: Drs. Rieders and Sunshine. As a tribute to these men, this auction is being held to raise funds to support an activity that we associate with Dr. Rieders and Dr. Sunshine – educating future toxicologists. To this end the proceeds from the auction will be donated to scholarship funds that further educational opportunities for our young scientists. Additional information is listed elsewhere in this issue.

I am pleased to announce that SOFT has a new home. On 1 June 2006, SOFT opened its administrative office in Mesa, AZ. Ms. Bonnie Fulmer [SOFT Administrative Assistant] is no longer operating the SOFT office out of her back bedroom. The SOFT office hours are 9 am – 1 pm [Arizona time: Winter =Mountain time and Summer=Pacific time] Monday – Friday. The phone/fax number remains the same, and we have added a new toll-free 800 number. Please note the following changes for contacting SOFT effective immediately.

Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.
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In the near future, members will also be able to email the office directly. The new email address will be distributed to the membership once it is available.

Finally, I would like to urge you to attend this year's annual meeting and join in on the social and more importantly the scientific "fun"! See ya'll in Austin. ☺

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE OF TOXTALK: NOVEMBER 1, 2006

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All SOFT members are encouraged to participate on SOFT committees.

If you would like any information regarding SOFT committees, please contact the appropriate chairperson

Committee chairs are reminded to complete their committee reports and return them to the SOFT Administrative Office in a timely manner.



SOFT 2006 Annual Meeting

AUSTIN, TEXAS

October 3 – 7, 2006



Welcome to the Home of SOFT 2006 – Austin, TX

We are excited to have SOFT come to Austin in 2006 for its first visit to Texas. The meeting will be held at the Hilton Austin beginning Tuesday, October 3rd through Saturday October 7th. The meeting will begin one day later in recognition of Yom Kippur. The hotel is located near the lively "6th Street" dining and entertainment area with museums, the State Capitol, lake trails and shopping within walking distance. The "Dillo" trolley system provides transportation to each of these venues at no cost for those desiring less exercise. The final social event will be an evening at the beautiful new Texas History Museum. The heart of our organization is the science. We are planning a stimulating and informative collection of workshops, posters and platform presentations.

Weather

The remnants of a hot Texas summer can last into October, but the average daytime highs are in the 70's. The Hilton pool is outside and Barton Springs (Brrr...) is open year round so you may want to bring the swim gear or some shorts for a walk along Town Lake. Lows should be in the 50's or higher.

Hotel Accommodations

The meeting will be held at the Hilton Austin located downtown at 500 East 4th Street. The direct telephone line is 512-482-8000. Room rates for the convention will be \$125 single/double.

**The Hilton has set up a direct reservation link on the SOFT website.
If reserving by phone - use code "SFT"**

Airport and Transportation

Austin-Bergstrom International airport is located less than 10 miles from downtown. Taxi cabs or shuttles are the primary mode of transportation from the airport to hotels. Parking fees at the Hilton are \$11 to \$16 (self park vs. valet). Transportation in the downtown area, including the campus of the University of Texas is provided at no cost via the "Dillo" trolley system.

**Preliminary Program, Workshop Details and
Registration Worksheet can be found in a
SPECIAL MEETING INSERT
for quick reference and easier information access**

Explore Austin

Relax, Refresh, And Rejuvenate! Whether you enjoy being active by hiking, boating, cycling or golfing or you just want to chill by the lake, you'll find a lot to do in this friendly, eclectic city. Surrounded by the Texas hill country and its sparkling rivers and lakes, Austin is the seat of state government, and is home to seven universities, a vast array of museums, galleries, and shops as well as local and state parks. Nicknamed "The Live Music Capital of the World" its varied music venues will have you tapping your feet. After all, it is host to two internationally attended festivals - South by Southwest Film and Music conference as well as Austin City Limits. A few of the local points of interest include the Capitol, Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum, Barton Springs, Zilker Botanical Gardens, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, and the "SOCO" district which helps maintain the "Keep Austin Weird" motto. Sunset viewing from the Oasis restaurant on Lake Travis is always a treat. Less than two hours away, experience wineries, popular state parks, and one of Texas' first German settlements, Fredericksburg. Plan extra leisure time when you visit because AUSTIN is a place you'll want to EXPLORE.

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**For meeting updates, go to
www.soft-tox.org**

IN MEMORIAM: DR. IRVING SUNSHINE –

Death of an Extraordinary Mentor

Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT, ToxTalk Editor

By now I am sure you are aware of the death of Dr. Irving Sunshine. His contributions to forensic toxicology are numerous and well known to those of us who have been in the field for the last several decades. There is no need to summarize his accomplishments here.

I was the first (1969) post-doctoral student to work for Dr Sunshine. It was an incredible experience and opportunity to learn from one of the greatest in the field. Recognizing the need to train young toxicologists, Dr. Sunshine gladly expended the energy necessary to keep the program viable for several years. Funding was through research grants that demanded considerable additional effort on his part. His efforts and convictions in this area are visible even today through the Sunshine Award.

Many toxicologists were trained by Dr. Sunshine, and, in my opinion, this is really his legacy. However, his interest in our future and welfare did not end when we left the Cuyahoga County Coroner's Office. He always assisted in finding employment and constantly inquired into the well being of his former students.

Dr. Sunshine's enthusiasm for the profession never dwindled. He was as enthusiastic at age 90 as he was in his much younger years. Conversations with him were always inspirational, no matter what the topic.

The death of Dr. Sunshine leaves a tremendous void in the profession that will never be filled. I am certain that I speak for all of the "Sunshine Boys" when I say it was an absolute privilege and honor that he touched our lives, both professionally and personally. His impact will not be forgotten. ☞

SOFT EXHIBITORS SET FOR AUSTIN

Submitted by Lisa O'Dell, SOFT Exhibitor Liaison

In an ever-surprising show of support for our organization and for the continued high quality of SOFT annual meetings, an unprecedented 96% of the available booths were sold by the end of June. As has been the case for many, many years, we fully expect to sell out. The following is a list of committed companies who will exhibit in Austin. Be sure to notice the few who have not exhibited before. Can you determine which four companies those are?

Acro Biotech; Agilent Technologies; Alternative Biomedical Solutions; American Solutions for Business; Andwin Scientific; Applied Biosystems; Axiom Diagnostics; Biochemical Diagnostics, Inc.; BioMed Resource, Inc.; Biotage; Branan Medical Corp.; Campbell Science Corp.; Capitol Vial, Inc.; Cerilliant Corp.; ChemWare, Inc.; CMI, Inc.; Common Cents Systems; Dade Behring, Inc.; Data Unlimited International, Inc.; domnick hunter, inc.; ECCOTRAX; Excalibur Lab Specialists, Inc.; Express Diagnostics International; Fitzco / Quality Forensics; Forensic Magazine; Full Spectrum Analytics, Inc.; GBF, Inc.; GERSTEL, Inc.; GRACE Davison Discovery Sciences; Humana Press, Inc.; Immunalysis Corp.; International Diagnostic Systems Corp.; JEOL USA, Inc.; Lin-Zhi International, Inc.; Lipomed, Inc.; Lynn Peavey Company; Microgenics Corp.; MicroLiter Analytical Supplies, Inc.; National Medical Services; Neogen Corp.; OraSure Technologies, Inc.; PerkinElmer Life and Analytical Sciences; Randox Laboratories; Regis Technologies; Restek Corp.; Roche Diagnostics Corp.; Rudolph Research Analytical; Sciteck Diagnostics, Inc.; SGE, Inc.; Shamrock Glass Company, Inc.; Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc.; SPEware Corp.; Thermo Electron; United Chemical Technologies, Inc.; UTAK Labs, Inc.; Varian, Inc.; Venture Labs, Inc.; VertiQ Software, LLC; Waters Corp. ☞

EXHIBITORS SPONSOR RIEDERS/SUNSHINE MEMORIAL SILENT AUCTION TO TAKE PLACE IN AUSTIN, TX

Many exhibitors expressed great interest in honoring two of the founders and leaders of the discipline of forensic toxicology who passed away this year: Drs. Fredric Rieders and Irving Sunshine. At the suggestion of Bunnie Gallagher from Shamrock Glass Company, a long-time exhibitor and sponsor, a Silent Auction will be presented by exhibitors during the 2006 SOFT meeting. Funds from this excitingly important event will be divided evenly and donated to the Fredric Rieders Family Renaissance Foundation and an appropriate Sunshine fund, to be determined. Participating exhibitors will be acknowledged in the next issue of ToxTalk.

Here's how the Silent Auction will work:

Our ever-wonderful exhibitors will offer a myriad of cool auction items on which to bid. Each item and bidding sheet will be displayed at the exhibitor's booth during exhibit hours. A bidder will place his/her name on the sheet and specify the amount of the bid. At 7:50 p.m. Thursday the bid slips will be collected, and the highest bid wins! Winners will be posted at participating exhibitors' booths and the meeting registration area on Friday morning. The highest bidder will pay for the prize with a credit card (no cash or checks) at the registration desk as soon as possible on Friday morning. Winners will then present a receipt to the appropriate exhibitor and pick up their item. Good luck! ☞

"GRANDFATHER OF MODERN FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY"

SOFT REMEMBERS DR. SUNSHINE

Dr. Irving Sunshine's contributions to science and society are legendary and well documented. SOFT members were invited to comment on their personal relationships with Dr. Sunshine. The following comments have been edited due to restricted space. These and future comments received will be forwarded to the Sunshine family, in their entirety, at a later date. Personally, I had the privilege of calling Dr. Sunshine "friend" and proclaiming myself a "Sunshine boyette-in-law." Pat Monforte



*When I arrived at the "21 Club" (Cleveland's Coroner's Office at 2121 Adelbert), I had not yet completed defense of my thesis. Irv would "nudge" me along, seeing to it that I kept my eye on the prize. Like a worried parent, he made sure that I not only learned and did what I needed in a post-doctoral position, but that in my case I stayed focused on finishing my defense. His own example was exemplary; he made total use of his time. Brad Hepler, "Sunshine Boy" ☞ He was a unique and outstanding individual. I am blessed to have known him for 40+ years having worked for him in the mid 60's and been subjected to his professional and personal generosity ever since. This old f**t is still very proud to be a Sunshine Boy. Nicholas Hodnett, "Sunshine Boy" ☞ Irving Sunshine was already an icon in the field of forensic toxicology when I worked for him in the mid-1970's. Dr. Sunshine was an interesting panoply of characteristics, all collected in one individual. A world-class scientist. A humanist. A very focused and goal-directed individual. A gracious mentor. A man of diverse and erudite opinions. Someone not shy about speaking "a word to the wise" if he thought you needed it. In many respects, a renaissance man. Not only widely published and knowledgeable in toxicology and related sciences, but a cultured "man for all seasons". Raymond Kelly, "Sunshine Boy" ☞ I first met Dr. Sunshine the early 1960's at an AAFS meeting in Chicago. Prior to my retirement Irving gave me advice regarding methodology, research, and publishing most helpful and very much appreciated. He was a wonderful friend and I miss him very much. Bob Cravey ☞ Irving, the grandfather of Clinical and Forensic Toxicology. It was a great honour to receive the IATDMCT "Sunshine Award" early in my career, binding me to Dr. Sunshine by ties of friendship. After I met him in 1993, I was very proud to hear from a colleague that Dr. Sunshine asked him for my address in order to get some of my GC-MS papers. At that moment I felt knighted by the King of Toxicology!! Hans Maurer ☞ Dr. Sunshine, while at times strongly opinionated, would listen, evaluate, and help the individual to see HIS point of view...and then have us feel as part of the family...the extended family of Toxicologists... a family to which we are proud to belong. Mark Lewis ☞ Dr. Sunshine can be considered the father of the Toxicological Society of Belgium and Luxembourg. He came to Belgium to give a lecture in 1988 or 1987, and he encouraged us to start a scientific society. In 1994 we gave Dr. Sunshine Honorary membership. Alain Verstraete ☞ Dr. Sunshine was a major force in redirecting my career and I have enjoyed every subsequent minute of it. I am certain Dr. Sunshine's spirit lives on in many other's lives and works as he does in mine. Edward Cone ☞ In the Toxicological Society of Belgium and Luxembourg we will keep the memory of Dr Sunshine alive as one of our great sponsors of science and friendship. Robert Wennig ☞ He was a mixture of intelligence, brightness, sensitivity and simplicity (all together in one). I'll always remember these sentences from him: 1) You can learn "Toxicology" just in two lessons each one takes you ten years. 2) The best toxicologist is not the one that has the most sophisticated analytical equipments, is the one that apply good criteria and knowledge of toxicology to solve the forensic cases. Maria Martinez ☞ Dr. Irving Sunshine was an outstanding professional mentor. In 1994, at a meeting sponsored by the Department of Pathology, Medical College of Wisconsin and the Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office, Dr. Sunshine suggested creating a jointly-sponsored postdoctoral program for clinical and forensic toxicology. Since the program was founded in 1996, there have been 8 fellows graduated/in training. Thus, I regard the program as another of Dr. Sunshine's lasting mentoring legacy. Steven Wong ☞*

Condolences may also be sent to Dr. Sunshine's sons:

Jonathan Sunshine, 6720 Western Ave, Chevy Chase MD 20815
Carl Sunshine, 1146 South La Jolla, Los Angeles, CA 90035.

NEW DRUGS

Section Editor: Dan Anderson, M.S., Los Angeles County Dept. of Coroner, Los Angeles, CA
Danderson@lacoroner.org

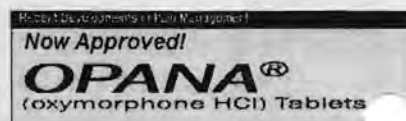
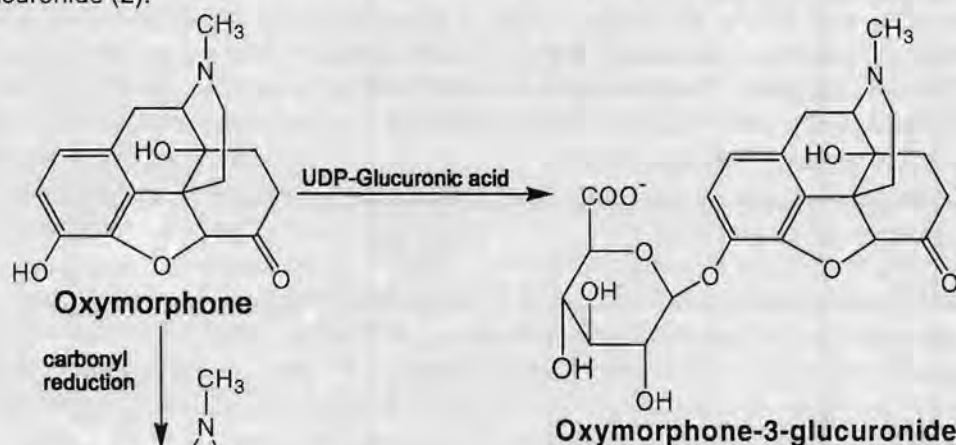


New Approval for Oxymorphone HCl Extended Release and Immediate Release Tablets

James C. Kraner, Ph.D., Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Charleston, WV.

Under the trade name, Numorphan®, oxymorphone has only been available in the US in suppository and injectable formulations. Typically, when oxymorphone is encountered in forensic samples, it is as the *O*-desmethyl metabolite of oxycodone. However, on June 23, the FDA gave final approval for two new oral formulations of oxymorphone for the treatment of moderate to severe pain. Trade names for the immediate and extended release tablets are Opana® and Opana® ER, respectively. The extended release tablets will be marketed in 5, 10, 20 and 40 mg strengths. The immediate release tablets will be available in 5 and 10 mg. Endo Pharmaceuticals expects combined sales for these medications of \$20 to \$30 million in 2006. As with Oxycontin®, product warnings for the extended release product caution against crushing the tablets.

Oxymorphone potency may be somewhat greater than oxycodone and similar to that of hydromorphone (1). Metabolism of oxymorphone occurs via reduction to 6-hydroxyoxymorphone and conjugation forming primarily oxymorphone 3-glucuronide (2).



Oxymorphone (7,8-Dihydro-14-hydroxymorphinone)
Mol wt: 301.3
Protein bound: 10-12%
Vd: 2-3 L/kg
pKa: 8.5, 9.3
Principle ions: 301, 216, 44, 42

1. B.G. Katzung. *Basic & Clinical Pharmacology*, 9th ed., McGraw-Hill, New York, NY, pp 497-516 (2004).
2. Adams MP, Ahdieh H. Single- and multiple-dose pharmacokinetic and dose-proportionality study of oxymorphone immediate-release tablets. *Drugs in R&D*. 6:91-9 (2005).

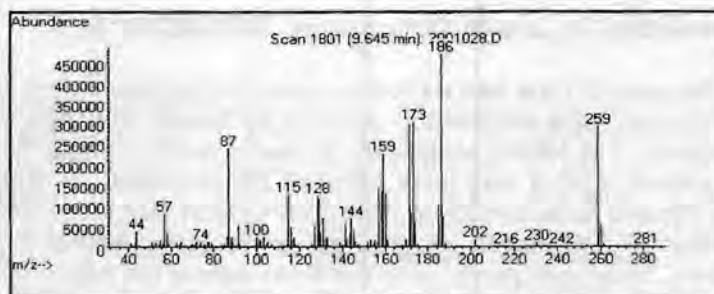
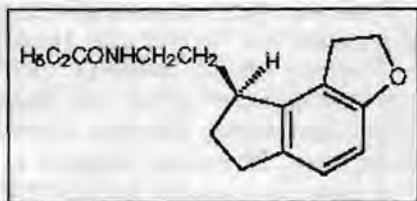
DSFA COMMITTEE POSTS SURVEY

The Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault (DFSA) Committee has created a survey to assess testing protocols and identify drugs most commonly encountered by those laboratories performing this type of analysis. Please download the survey from the SOFT website homepage (www.soft-tox.org) and, when completed, fax back to Dr. Marinetti at 937-496-7916. If you have any questions, you can contact Dr. Marinetti at marinetti@mcoho.org. If you have already responded, thanks.

RAMELTEON (ROZEREM™) – Part II

Submitted by Jaime Lintemoot & Dan Anderson Los Angeles County Department of Coroner, 1104 N. Mission Rd, Los Angeles, 90033 (jlintemoot@lacoroner.org)

Information, such as Pharmacokinetic and Chemical properties, were provided for Ramelteon (Rozerem™) in a recent ToxTalk (1st quarter, 2006). Since the publication, the Los Angeles County Department of Coroner has encountered one case in which a decedent was prescribed Ramelteon. A crushed pill standard was prepared from the medical evidence and utilized to determine analytical properties. Ramelteon extracted via a basic liquid/liquid extraction with an acid back extraction and was easily detected on both the GC/MS and GC/NPD. Despite ease of extraction, the decedent's blood screened negative for Ramelteon.



Relative elution order: Bupivacaine, Benztropine, **ROZEREM**, Norsertaline, Sertraline
m/z ions: 186, 259, 171, 57, 115, 128

Reference

1. Lauren L. Richards, M.S., Marshall University, Department of Pharmacology, Marshall University School of Medicine Huntington, WV and James C. Kraner, Ph.D., Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Charleston, WV.
2. *New Drugs – Ramelteon (Rozerem™)*, ToxTalk Volume 30 No. 1 – 1st Quarter 2006. ☞

CALL FOR TOXTALK MATERIAL

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Specific items should be sent to the appropriate ToxTalk personnel as noted below.

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“Drugs in the News” –
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“Extrapolations” –
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All other items should be sent to SOFTToxTalk@aol.com

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Please send items for the next issue of ToxTalk by NOVEMBER 1, 2006.

SOFT MEMBERS SURVEYED CONCERNING CONTINUING EDUCATION AND WEBCASTING INTEREST

The Center for Forensic Sciences, RTI International of Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, recently launched a survey focusing on continuing education needs and interests in the field of forensic toxicology and directed to SOFT members. This information can be used to determine if webcasted educational modules would be useful for forensic toxicologists and laboratory personnel that may find it to be a viable option to obtain continuing education that does not require travel. An e-broadcast sent to all SOFT members last month with details. Even if you have no current C.E. needs, please go to www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=311262278071. Questions and comments should be addressed to: Dr. Jeri Roper-Miller at jerimiller@rti.org. ☞



CALL FOR CASE NOTES:



Section Editor: *Matthew Barnhill, Ph.D.*
mbarnhilljr@worldnet.att.net

Carbamate Pesticide Self-Poisoning.

T. J. Siek, Analytic Bio-Chemistries, Inc. and M. Lichtenwalner, DRUGSCAN, Inc.

Case History: A 55 year-old male was rushed to a local hospital emergency room. It was reported that several hospital employees in the emergency room were overcome or sickened by "fumes" emanating from this patient and his clothing. He died within minutes of his ER arrival. His history suggested he used a product called "Prentox Prenbay 1.5 EC" which is 19.6% propoxur in solvent. The solvent is what may have sickened ER personnel. A forensic autopsy was performed, and blood, gastric, liver, vitreous fluid, bile and urine specimens were obtained and sent to the two toxicology laboratories indicated above.

Analytical: An initial GC/MS screen revealed diphenhydramine, sertraline and alprazolam. Because propoxur is a neutral secondary carbamate, blood and gastric were extracted without pH adjustment with dichloromethane/isopropanol 19/1, the extracts were filtered and then washed with dilute acid (0.1N H₂SO₄) and dilute 0.1N NaOH. Solvent from the extracts was evaporated and residues made up in methanol. Ultra violet (UV) scans revealed nearly perfect propoxur matches. Gastric fluid and blood concentrations based on UV absorbances and 271 nm gave propoxur concentrations of 160 mg/L in blood and 1.2 mg/mL (1200 mg/L) in gastric contents. These concentrates also gave one major HPLC peak on a reverse phase 15 cm column (Phenomenex Gemini) with 50% methanol/50% pH 4.2 buffer. A TLC plate (Analtech 47521) with the chromatographed extracts of gastric, blood, and urine gave a substance matching propoxur. A pronounced scarlet spot (reaction) was apparent with Mandelin reagent with propoxur and the blood and gastric extracts. The urine concentration was minimal; however, obvious metabolites were present. Propoxur was identified on re-examination of the mass spectra of the neutral fraction by searching Clarke's Analysis of Drugs and Poisons indexes of mass spectral data for pesticides.

The blood and gastric were diluted in methanol and chromatographed on a 4 foot 2 mm id Porapak PS column with FID detector. Two xylene isomers were found present in high concentrations in the gastric and blood. The odor of xylene is unpleasant to many persons and may account for the sick ER personnel.

The drug concentrations found in blood were 0.04 mg/L alprazolam, 0.8 mg/L diphenhydramine, 0.3 mg/L sertraline, and 0.8 mg/L desmethylsertraline.

Comments: In the cases of a general unknown, UV spectrophotometry and TLC on fractions of the gastric contents can provide initial identification clues, provided that a systematic approach to UV and TLC is used. Information garnered from these techniques sets up the GC/MS run for forensic identification by providing a suspect toxin and narrowing the scope of the GC/MS search.

Death of a Pain Clinic Patient Taking Methadone and Chloral Hydrate

Karen D. Hart, Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences, Region II Toxicology Laboratory, Hoover, AL

Case History: The decedent was a 50 y.o. male recently treated for drinking rubbing alcohol. Upon hospital discharge, he checked into a rehabilitation facility for drug and alcohol abuse. He was released approximately one week later and went directly to a pain clinic where he was prescribed 240 Methadone (!), size unknown, and 60 Somnote (chloral hydrate), 500mg. Five days later, he was discovered unresponsive at home and taken via ambulance to the ER, where he was pronounced DOA. A post-mortem specimen kit containing a blood sample was submitted to this laboratory by the coroner, who listed the cause and manner of death as "undetermined" at that point.

Analytical Results: Toxicological examination of the blood sample revealed the following:

Ethanol	Methadone	Trichloroethanol	Mephobarbital	Phenobarbital	Metoclopramide
negative	0.26 mg/L	25 mg/L	0.38 mg/L	11 mg/L	0.10 mg/L

Editor's note: *Thank you to those who have submitted case notes to ToxTalk. Without your participation, this section would not be possible. Others are encouraged to follow your example.*

Death of an Infant Involving Guaifenesin

Cecilia M. Rosales M.D.¹, Miguel A. Laboy, M.D.², Thomas Young M.D.², and Uttam Garg Ph.D.¹, DABFT. ¹Department of *hology and Laboratory Medicine, Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics and University of Missouri School of Medicine, and Jackson County Medical Examiner's Office, Kansas City, MO*

Introduction: Guaifenesin (guaiphenesin, glyceryl guaiacolate, guaiacol glyceryl ether) is a guaicol derivative that is used to thin the mucus in the air passages and help clear the airways by coughing. It is available in numerous over-the-counter preparations and prescription regular and time-released tablets and syrups, usually in combination with antihistaminic, antitussives or decongestants. Single oral doses of 50-200 mg and daily doses of up to 1200 mg are commonly used (2). Majority of Guaifenesin is metabolized by oxidation to beta-(2-methoxyphenoxy) lactic acid, which is excreted in the urine (3). Unchanged drug has not been detected in urine (4). Overdose results in lethargy, coma and respiratory depression (1).

Case history: The subject was a 23-month-old infant allegedly found dead by the mother lying face down on the carpeted floor. The past medical history includes cold-like symptoms for about two weeks. The infant was allegedly left in care of the mother's boyfriend while she was at work. At the scene the body had posterior lividity and rigor and Robitussin® and Equate® were found. An autopsy revealed multiple injuries, and the cause of death was ruled as blunt impact to the abdomen and the manner of death was ruled as homicide.

Material and methods: Samples of blood were collected from femoral vein and heart for routine toxicological analysis. Toxicological drug screen, including number of acidic, basic and neutral drugs, was performed by GC/MS. Drugs of abuse screening for amphetamines, barbiturates, cannabinoids, cocaine, methadone, opiates, phencyclidine and propoxyphene was performed by enzyme immunoassays in heart blood. Volatile screen for ethanol, methanol, isopropanol and acetone was performed by GC with flame ionization detector in femoral blood.

Results and Discussion: Enzyme immunoassays for drugs of abuse were negative. Also volatile screen was negative. Drug screen panel by mass spectrometry demonstrated the presence of Guaifenesin. Concentrations of Guaifenesin in femoral and heart blood were 16 mg/mL and 14 mg/mL, respectively. These levels demonstrate overdose as 600 mg dose resulted in peak concentration of only 1.4 mg/L in 3 subjects studied (5). Similar levels of Guaifenesin in heart and femoral blood are probably due to the low volume of distribution (1.0 L/kg). In a previously reported case of a person who died of intentional overdose due to ingestion of a bottle of Hycotuss® cough syrup, the postmortem blood contained 14 mg/L of Guaifenesin and 3.0 mg/L of hydrocodone (2). In another published case of an overdose, the postmortem blood demonstrated Guaifenesin concentration of 27 mg/L. In this case diphenhydramine and chlorpheniramine were also found at concentrations 8.8 mg/L and 0.2 mg/L, respectively (6). There is no report in the literature of Guaifenesin overdose involving an infant. Guaifenesin concentration found in our case is comparable to one (2) but lower than the other reported case (6). Unlike our case, both other cases were adults and involved additional drugs. Due to multiple injuries, the cause of death was ruled as blunt impact to abdomen, the manner of death was ruled as homicide. However, very high concentrations of Guaifenesin possibly contributed to the death in this case.

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2. Baselt RC: **Disposition of toxic drugs and chemicals in man**. 7th ed., California: Chemical Toxicology Institute, 2004: pp 1023-4.
3. Pickens CL, Milliron AR, Fussner AL, et al: *Abuse of guaifenesin-containing medications generates an excess of a carboxylate salt of beta-(2-methoxyphenoxy)-lactic acid, a guaifenesin metabolite, and results in urolithiasis*. **Urology** 1999; 54:23-7.
4. Naito SI, Mizutani M, Osumi S, et al: *Biopharmaceutical studies on guaiacol glyceryl ether and related compounds*. **V J Pharm Sci** 1972; 61:1212-1215.
5. Maynard WR Jr and Bruce RB. *GLC determination of guaiacol glyceryl ether in blood*. **J Pharm Sci** 1970, 59:1346-8.
6. Wogoman H; Steinberg M and Jenkins AJ: *Acute intoxication with Guaifenesin, diphenhydramine and chlorpheniramine*. **Am J For Med Path** 1999, 20:199-202. ☪

CASE NOTES ON DECK FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOXTALK:

Post Mortem Detection of Diltiazem (Cardizem®) in Individuals Abusing Cocaine. Timothy Hahn, B.S., Joseph Avella, M.S., FTS-ABFT, Michael Lehrer, Ph.D., Department of Forensic Toxicology, Division of Medical-Legal and Forensic Investigations, Suffolk County, NY

Oxycontin "Ghost Pill" in a Hospital Fatality. Douglas E. Rhodes, M.S., Lake County Crime Laboratory, Painesville, OH 4077

**Send your case notes to Section Editor Matthew Barnhill, Ph.D., at
mbarnhilljr@worldnet.att.net**

SOFT ANNOUNCES ERA AND YSMA AWARDEES FOR 2006

The SOFT Awards Committee, consisting of Chair Philip Kemp, Ph.D., DABFT, Vina Spiehler, Ph.D., DABFT and Thomas Kupiec, Ph.D., DABFT, recently announced the recipients of the SOFT annual Educational Research Awards and the Young Scientist Meeting Awards promoting the study of forensic toxicology among qualified graduate students and bench chemists. Each awardee receives complimentary basic registration fee for the 2006 annual SOFT meeting in Austin in October, \$1,000 to offset other meeting costs, and an opportunity to present his or her work at the meeting.

YOUNG SCIENTIST MEETING AWARD

Travis E. Curtis, M.S.*: *"The Assessment of Chlorophene Contamination in Postmortem Biological Specimens"*
Ameritox Laboratory, Midland, TX. Supervisor: Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT*

Eucen L. Fu: *"Distribution of Pseudoephedrine in Over 100 Postmortem Cases."* Los Angeles Coroner, Los Angeles, CA. Supervisor: Daniel Anderson, M.S.*

Matthew P. Juhascik*: *"Investigation Into the Feasibility of Screening for Drugs of Abuse in Vitreous Humor."* UMass Memorial, Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, Worcester, MA
Supervisor: George Behonick, Ph.D.*

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD

Erin A. Kolbrich*: *"Physiological and Subjective Effects Following Controlled Administration of Oral MDMA to Young Adult MDMA Users."* University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD.
Mentor: Marilyn Huestis, Ph.D.*

Stacy J. Smeal*: *"Mechanisms of Cannabinoid Incorporation Into Hair."* University of Utah, Center for Human Toxicology, Salt Lake City, UT. Mentor: Douglas Rollins, M.D., Ph.D.*

*SOFT member

CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU !! ☺

"DRUGS IN THE NEWS" INCENTIVE: A prize will be bestowed to someone submitting appropriate articles for the *Drugs in the News* section of **ToxTalk** between January 1 and July 7, 2006. Newly appointed *Drugs in the News* Editor Dwain Fuller will determine the winner and present the prize at the 2006 SOFT meeting in Austin.
The prize: A hand-held massager with heat, swivel head and six interchangeable attachments to relieve your aching muscles after hours at your PC identifying items for *Drugs in the News!* ☺

SOFT MEMBERS HONORED BY AAFS

Congratulations to the following SOFT members who were honored at the 2006 annual meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

June K. Jones Scholarship – In support of the research of students pursuing advanced degrees:
Michele L. Merves, B.S.

Irving Sunshine Award – Outstanding research by a young investigator:
Fiona J. Couper, Ph.D.

Ray Abernethy Award – Outstanding forensic toxicology practitioner:
H. Chip Walls, B.S.

Alexander O. Gettler Award – Analytical achievement in forensic toxicology:
Bruce A. Goldberg, Ph.D., DABFT

Rolla N. Harger Award – Outstanding contributions in forensic toxicology:
Joseph E. Manno, Ph.D., DABFT ☺

EXCELLENCE IN SOLID PHASE EXTRACTION AWARD

At the 2006 Annual Soft Meeting, United Chemical Technologies plans to present an award for outstanding contributions to the field of Solid Phase Extraction in Forensic Science to one or more individuals or organizations. It may be awarded for a single unique application or technique, volume of work presented over time, extraction prior to a particular area of analysis, such as GC/MS, LC/MS, electrophoresis, TLC, etc., a new approach to the use of SPE in forensics, its use in a unique area of forensic science, or any work which promotes the science of SPE in general.

For consideration, submit a copy of your work along with a short statement as to why you believe your work deserves this recognition to: United Chemical Technologies, Inc., Attn: Excellence in SPE Award, 2731 Bartram Road, Bristol, PA 19007. The deadline to submit entries is 30 days prior to the annual SOFT meeting. Work received after that time will be considered for the following year's award. ☺

DRUGS IN THE NEWS



Send items of interest to:

Drugs in the News Editor Dwain Fuller, BS, D-FTCB, TC-NRCC
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas
Mail Stop B113, 4500 South Lancaster Road, Dallas, TX 75216
Dwain.Fuller@UTSouthwestern.edu



Salvia divinorum, The 'Magic Mint'

Submitted by Ruby Javed-Ghaffar, Ph.D., and John Kristofic, Office of the Chief M E Toxicology Unit, Wilmington, DE

"Salvia allows us to give up our senses and wander in the interdimensional time and space." This is an excerpt from a teenager's essay left with a suicide note on January 23, 2006. The essay continued to state that "... our existence in general is pointless. Final point: us earthly humans are nothing." The teenager acted on this belief by sealing himself in a tent with a charcoal grill. Our laboratory initially deemed carbon monoxide poisoning (82% COHb) as the only cause of death. However, the parents' persistent inquiry in light of plant material discovered in their child's vehicle and prior concern from a cousin led our pathologist, toxicologist and chemist in another direction.

Salvia divinorum is a member of the mint family. It has been used by the Mazatec Indians as traditional medicine and for spiritual practices because of its hallucinogenic effects, which have been compared to the synthetic hallucinogen LSD. Although around for centuries, use of this herb has recently increased throughout the U.S. with the convenience of the Internet. Only Missouri and Louisiana have outlawed the distribution and use of this drug due to concerns about teenage abuse of the plant. Presently, the parents of this suicide case are fighting to outlaw salvia in Delaware because of its powerful effect on their child and in hopes of preventing other parents from encountering the same tragedy.

Salvinorins A-F have been isolated from the plant leaves although Salvinorin A is the only known pharmacologically active compound. Unlike other well-known hallucinogens, Salvinorin A is a full and highly selective kappa-opioid receptor agonist. In fact, it is the only known non-nitrogenous agonist for this receptor. The hallucinogenic effects reportedly peak 3-5 minutes after inhalation, and 5-10 minutes after mastication and ingestion. Unlike LSD, the effects only last up to one hour.

Based on limited pharmacokinetic data, it has been suggested that Salvinorin A undergoes rapid elimination, with a detection window in urine of approximately 1.5 hours. Only a small portion of the Salvinorin A dose is excreted unchanged in the urine during this narrow time frame. Studies in rhesus monkeys suggest that Salvinorin A has a highly variable half-life (specifically during the distribution phase) that may differ between genders. In addition, Salvinorin A may be metabolized by blood esterases into the inactive metabolite Salvinorin B, although this has not been investigated *in vivo*.

We were unable to detect Salvinorin A in submitted blood specimens, possibly because of the aforementioned pharmacokinetics. However, a successful GC/MS method was developed. There is still much research that needs to be completed in order to understand the pharmacological and physiological effects of Salvia use. For the moment, leading researchers in the field have confirmed that salvinorin A is a potent hallucinogen that can cause out-of-body experiences and thus must be used responsibly.

For this Delaware teenager, the effects of Salvia seemed to be mind altering to the point of oblivion as stated in his essay and suicide note. We do not have all the answers. However, we do know that the easy accessibility of this drug on the Internet allows the opportunity for adolescents and young adults to buy and use Salvia as they wish. The problem with such curious and naïve minds is the unpredictable outcomes.

1. Chalmers, Mike (2006) Legal high new worry for parents: LSD-like herb blamed in Delaware teen suicide. *Sunday News Journal* 26 Feb. 2006: A1 and A13.
2. Pichini, S., et al. (2005) Quantification of the plant-derived hallucinogen Salvinorin A in conventional and non-conventional biological fluids by GC/MS after *Salvia divinorum* smoking. *Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry* 19: 1649-1656.
3. Prisinzano, Thomas E. (2005) Psychopharmacology of the hallucinogenic sage *Salvia divinorum*. *Life Sciences* 78: 527-531.
4. Rizzacasa, Mark A., Munro, Thomas A. (2003) Salvinorins D-F, new neoclerodane diterpenoids from *Salvia divinorum*, and an improved method for the isolation of Salvinorin A. *Journal of Natural Products* 66: 703-705.
5. Roth, Bryan L., Yan, Feng. (2004) Salvinorin A: A novel and highly selective kappa-opioid receptor agonist. *Life Sciences* 75: 2615-2619.
6. Schmidt, Matthew D., et al. (2005) Pharmacokinetics of the plant-derived kappa-opioid hallucinogen Salvinorin A in nonhuman primates. *Synapse* 58: 208-210. ♀

Don't delay – register for the SOFT meeting today!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES 2007 SLATE

The SOFT 2006 Nominating Committee, consisting of Graham Jones (chair), Laurel Farrell and Jeanne Beno, presents for the membership's considering the following slate.

PRESIDENT : Diana Wilkins, Ph.D.
VICE PRESIDENT: Christine Moore, Ph.D., DABCC
TREASURER: Bradford Hepler, Ph.D., DABFT
DIRECTORS: Marc A. LeBeau, Ph.D.
Sarah Kerrigan, Ph.D.

The President and Vice President serve 1-year terms while the Treasurer and Secretary serve 2-year terms, which expire in alternate years. The five additional Directors are elected for 3-year terms, with no more than 2 elected each year. If a director cannot serve his/her entire term, an interim director shall be named by the Board to serve the remaining term. All officers are also directors.

PRESIDENT – Diana Wilkins, Ph.D.

Diana G. Wilkins is currently the Co-Director of the Center for Human Toxicology at the University of Utah Health Sciences Center and a Research Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, College of Pharmacy at the University of Utah. Previously, Dr. Wilkins served as Assistant Director, Quality Control /Quality Assurance Manager and Senior Toxicologist at the Center for Human Toxicology. She received a B.S. (1985), M.S. (1988) and Ph.D. (1991) from the University of Utah. Her post-doctoral education included training in toxicology and pharmacology, with particular emphasis on drugs of abuse. She has been an NLCP inspector and a laboratory assessor for the Standards Council of Canada. Dr. Wilkins was a member of the Drug Testing Advisory Board (DTAB) of the HHS Division of Workplace Performance 1994-1997. She has also served as an Ad Hoc member of several NIH/NIDA study sections and is currently a member of the FDA's Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Toxicology Devices Panel of the Medical Devices Advisory Committee.

Dr. Wilkins has been an active member of SOFT since 1994, has co-authored 21 abstracts presented at the

SOFT Annual Meetings (1995-2002), and served as faculty for three SOFT-sponsored meeting workshops (1996, 1998, 2000), as well as a SOFT Educational Workshop on "Derivatization" conducted at a regional toxicology meeting. As a member of the Center for Human Toxicology, she co-hosted the 1997 SOFT Annual Meeting (Utah) and served as a co-Editor of the 2000 SOFT/JAT Special Issue. Dr. Wilkins has served as a member of the SOFT Board (2000-2002), SOFT Executive Board (2002-present), and SOFT Membership Committee (2002-present), and Secretary (2004-2005). She is currently completing a term as SOFT Vice President.

Dr. Wilkins participates in teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in clinical and analytical toxicology, pharmacology and statistics for pharmacologic research at the University of Utah. Her research interests include investigation of the disposition of drugs of abuse in biological matrices, as well as applications of mass spectrometry in biomedical research. Dr. Wilkins has published over 60 scientific articles in the areas of analytical toxicology and pharmacology.

VICE PRESIDENT - Christine Moore, Ph.D., DABCC

Christine Moore is currently the Vice-President of Toxicology Research and Development for Immunalysis Corporation, a company specializing in the development of immunoassays for the screening of drugs in biological specimens. Dr. Moore is in charge of the development of new confirmatory assays for drugs with specific emphasis on new techniques, alternative matrices and applications in mass spectrometry.

She is Board Certified in Toxicological Chemistry by the American Board of Clinical Chemistry (DABCC) and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Dr. Moore has a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Chemistry from the University of Salford, England, a Master of Science degree in Forensic Science from the University of Strathclyde, Scotland, and a Ph.D. in Forensic Toxicology from the University of Glasgow, Scotland (1989).

Following a post-doctoral year at the University of Nagoya, Japan, Christine served as a Research Associate at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she maintains the post of Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Biopharmaceutical Sciences.

In 2005, she was awarded the *Alexander O. Gettler Award* for Analytical Achievements in Forensic Toxicology by the Toxicology Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Christine has been the Treasurer of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) since 2004. She is a past Board member of SOFT, a previous chair of JCETT and served on the Continuing Education committee. Since 1993 she has presented her research at the annual SC meetings, especially in the areas of solid phase extraction, new mass spectrometric techniques, and the analysis of meconium, hair and oral fluid for drugs of abuse.

Dr. Moore is the Vice-President elect of the Society of Hair Testing (SOHT) and is a member of the International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (TIAFT), the American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC), the Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA), the California Association of Toxicologists (CAT) and the International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety (ICADTS). Additionally, she is Past-

President of the Mid-West Association for Toxicology and Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (MATT) and past-Chair of the Toxicology Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

She currently has over 80 peer-reviewed publications regarding the analysis of drugs in biological matrices.

TREASURER - Bradford Hepler, Ph.D., DABFT

Dr. Hepler is currently Laboratory Director at the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office, a position he has held since 1992. He began his career in chemistry after receiving his B.Sc. degree in Chemistry in 1969 from California State Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo. Following graduation, Dr. Hepler served six years in the United States Air Force. In 1981, he received his Ph.D. degree in Chemistry (Analytical) from McGill University in Montreal. He was employed at the Cuyahoga County Coroner's Office in Cleveland in 1980 where he trained under Dr. Irving Sunshine and held two university appointments.

Dr. Hepler has been with the Wayne County MEO in Detroit, MI, since 1990 and holds appointments at Wayne State University in Detroit as Clinical Assistant Professor (Department of Pathology) and as an Adjunct Professor (Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences). His research interests include the analytical, clinical and forensic aspects of toxicology, as well as using computer, chromatographic and electroanalytical methods in solving problems related to these disciplines. He has authored, co-authored and presented over 100 papers on these topics.

A SOFT member for many years, Dr. Hepler has served on the Method Evaluations Committee in 1985, on the ToxTalk Editorial Board 1990-1993, and as co-editor of the 1998 Journal of Analytical Toxicology/SOFT special issue. He was a co-host of the 2002 Annual Meeting held in Dearborn, MI, and is currently a member of the SOFT Board of Directors, a position he has held since 2004.

Dr. Hepler is a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Toxicology (DABFT), an AAFS fellow and recipient of the 1998 AAFS Toxicology Section Ray Abernethy Award. He has been AAFS Toxicology Section Program Chair, AAFS Toxicology Section Secretary, AAFS Toxicology Section Chair, a member of the AAFS Nominating Committee and served on the AAFS Toxicology Section Nominating Committee. He is also a member of multiple toxicology and chemistry professional organizations, including AACC, CAT, ASCP, and TIAFT, as well as a registered Medical Technologist (MT-ASCP) and a licensed Clinical Laboratory Scientist with the State of California. Dr. Hepler is a laboratory inspector for CAP, NLCP, and the ABFT laboratory accreditation programs.

DIRECTOR - Marc A. LeBeau, Ph.D.

Dr. LeBeau is the Chief of the FBI Laboratory's Chemistry Unit. He has worked as a Forensic Chemist and Toxicologist for the FBI since 1994 and has testified as an expert in federal, state, and county courts throughout the United States. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree (Cum Laude) in Chemistry and Criminal Justice from Central Missouri State University (1988) and a Master of Science degree in Forensic Science from the University of New Haven (1990). He was employed in the St. Louis County Medical Examiners Office (1990-1994), before beginning his career with the FBI. In 2005, he received his doctorate in toxicology from the University of Maryland - Baltimore.

Within his current position, he has co-authored numerous peer-reviewed papers in scientific journals, as well as book chapters and abstracts. In conjunction with the U.S. Department of Justice, he also published a "tip sheet" for investigators of the crime of drug-facilitated rape. Dr. LeBeau has provided training to more than 8,000 law enforcement officers, forensic scientists, attorneys, medical professionals, and rape crisis counselors throughout the world. Additionally, he was a contributor to training materials for prosecutors of drug-facilitated rape cases and co-edited a book entitled Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assault: A Forensic Handbook. In 2004, Dr. LeBeau won the *FBI Director's Award for Outstanding Scientific Advancement*.

Dr. LeBeau is also active in numerous scientific organizations. He has been a member of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) since 1995 and has served as Chairperson of the Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assault Committee since its inception. In 2004, Dr. LeBeau was the co-host for the FBI Laboratory Symposium on Forensic Toxicology and Joint Meeting of SOFT and TIAFT in Washington, DC. Dr. LeBeau is also an active member of The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (TIAFT) and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS). He is a member of numerous committees within these organizations, assists with abstract reviews for annual meetings, and participates as a moderator. Dr. LeBeau is on the editorial board of *Forensic Science Communications* and has been Guest Editor to the *Journal of Analytical Toxicology*, the *Journal of Chromatography B*, and *Forensic Science International*. He has also served as a member of the Scientific Working Group for the Analysis of Seized Drugs (SWGDRUG) and is the chairperson of the Scientific Working Group on the Forensic Analysis of Chemical Terrorism (SWGFACT). Furthermore, Dr. LeBeau is an American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors - Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD-LAB) assessor in the areas of drug chemistry and forensic toxicology.

DIRECTOR - Sarah Kerrigan, Ph.D.

Sarah Kerrigan is an Associate Professor in the College of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University. She also maintains a private consulting practice in Houston, TX, and regularly provides toxicology-related training to law enforcement, attorneys and the judiciary. She received a BS degree in Chemistry, Analytical Chemistry and Toxicology from the University of Hull in England. She conducted her postgraduate work in toxicology at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada, where she received her Ph.D. Her initial training in forensic toxicology was at the Metropolitan Police Forensic Laboratory in London, England. Between 2001 and 2004 she served as Chief of the Toxicology Bureau for the New Mexico Department of Health, Scientific Laboratory Division, where she was responsible for the blood and breath alcohol program in addition to forensic drug and alcohol related medical examiner and criminal casework statewide. Dr. Kerrigan was an Adjunct Professor in the Pathology Department of the School of Medicine at the University of New Mexico at that time. Prior to this, she worked at the California Department of Justice Toxicology Laboratory in Sacramento, CA.

Dr. Kerrigan served on several SOFT committees including Continuing Education (1999-2002), Membership (2004-2005), Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assault (2000-present)

and the joint SOFT/AAFS Drugs and Driving Committee where she currently serves as Chair. She has been a regular contributor to the SOFT annual meetings, presenting over a dozen papers and chairing three workshops in recent years. Over a period of six years Dr. Kerrigan served on the Board of Directors of the California Association of Toxicologists where she held a variety of elected positions, including President (2004-2005).

Dr. Kerrigan has been a contributing author in several toxicology textbooks and has published research in peer reviewed journals. In 2002 she joined the faculty of the National Judicial College in Reno, NV. She is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of Analytical Toxicology and past Chair of the Editorial Advisory Board for Clinical and Forensic Toxicology News, an AACC publication (2001-2005). Dr. Kerrigan works closely with attorneys, law enforcement and the judiciary on traffic safety issues. She was recognized for her dedication, perseverance and commitment to these efforts by the New Mexico Department of Transportation in 2002. Dr. Kerrigan received the Outstanding DRE Program Innovation award from the IACP/CANDID in 2003 and was the recipient of the Irving Sunshine Toxicology Award from the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in 2002. ☼

DO NOT MISS OUT ON THE MEETING RATE AT THE HILTON AUSTIN.

Once the block is reserved, there will be "no rooms at the inn."

Make your reservation through the SOFT website or call 512-482-8000 (code SFT) today!

COPY AND TAKE THIS HOME

SO-SOFT PLANNED ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 4-7, 2006

AUSTIN, TEXAS

Saddle up, SO-SOFT (Significant Others - SOFT) cowgirls and cowboys! Susie McCutcheon has put together some great activities at terrific prices for y'all during the SOFT meeting in Austin.

Let's hear a big Texas YEE-HAW!!!

Wednesday, October 5, 2006 8:30 am – 5:00 pm: Leisurely drive through the Texas hill country with stops at the famous Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, lunch on the river in quaint town of Wimberley, and afternoon shopping at the incredible Tanger and Prime Outlet Malls in San Marcos. You spend as much \$\$\$ as you want at the Malls! Price includes Center entry fee and round-trip minibus transportation. All ages _____ reservations @ \$45 each = \$_____

Friday, October 7, 2006 10:00 am – 3:00 pm: A couple of scenic stops in Austin for pictures en route to The Oasis Restaurant on Lake Travis for lunch and shopping. What a view overlooking the lake! Gift and garden shops. Price includes round-trip minibus transportation only. All ages _____ reservations @ \$30 each = \$_____

Your name _____ e-mail _____
SOFT member's name _____ your phone _____

Make your check payable to: "SOFT" and mail to SO-SOFT, 7330 Ashton Place, San Antonio, TX 78229

No checks will be accepted after September 1

Additional reservations at the meeting are not guaranteed and on a first-come, available space basis. If an event is cancelled due to not meeting the minimum 20 reservations, refunds will be made after the SOFT meeting.

Contact Susie McCutcheon, SO-SOFT Austin Activities Coordinator at 210- 979-9878 if you have questions. ☼

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

of the *Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.*

Renaissance Nashville Hotel – Nashville, Tennessee
Wednesday, October 19th, 2005 3:45 p.m.

The Annual Business meeting of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc., (SOFT) was held on October 19th, 2005, at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel – Nashville, Tennessee. As requested by President Jones, Secretary Diana Wilkins determined a quorum of at least 110 full members was present. President Jones called the meeting to order at 3:45 pm and reminded the membership that only full and retired members of SOFT are eligible to vote. Upon a motion duly made, seconded and passed, the agenda was approved with one minor correction. (The agenda indicated that minutes from the September 1, 2005 Annual Business Meeting would be voted upon; the year was corrected to 2004). By a motion duly made, seconded and passed, the minutes of the annual business meeting of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc., of September 1, 2004, as published in **ToxTalk**, were approved by acclamation.

President's Report:

Graham Jones, Ph.D., DABFT

President Jones thanked the membership for allowing him to serve as SOFT President for the previous year and recognized the efforts of the many volunteers who provide time and service to SOFT, including SOFT Officers, Board members, committee chairs, committee members, and others. Next, Dr. Jones noted that the size and complexity of hosting the annual meeting has increased tremendously over the past several years. The total number of registrants for the current 2005 meeting, for example, has exceeded 800 individuals, as well of over 76 participating vendors and sponsors. Therefore, the Board of Directors has voted to create a Meeting Coordinator position to assist the local meeting hosts for future meetings. The local hosts will remain responsible for the structure and content of the annual meeting; however, the Meeting Coordinator will assist with administrative, planning, and procedural tasks. Dr. Jones then announced that Vickie Watts has accepted this position for the upcoming year.

Of the many issues and activities considered by the 2005 SOFT Board, one initiative deemed of sufficient importance to bring to the membership is the proposed position statement on back-calculation of dosage of drugs in post-mortem cases using the volume of distribution formula, which will be discussed further during this meeting.

Finally, President Jones thanked Louis Kuykendall, Mike Lyttle, and their staff from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation for their efforts in organizing and hosting the 2005 annual meeting; Vickie Watts for her efforts in assisting in the planning of the 2005 meeting; Lisa O'Dell for her efforts in the area of vendor support; and Bruce Goldberger, who served not only as Web Master, but also

helped with establishing the on-line registration process for the current annual meeting.

Secretary's Report:

Diana G. Wilkins, Ph.D.

Secretary Wilkins thanked the Society for the opportunity and privilege of serving as Secretary during this year. She reported on progress with respect to registration of the official SOFT logo for educational purposes with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The law office of Pate, Pierce and Baird has been retained to assist in the application process; the application was filed in early August 2004. However, the application is still under review and no further information has been received from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at this time. Secretary Wilkins reminded the membership that the attorneys have directed SOFT to use the "TM" symbol with the SOFT logo (lower, right-hand corner) whenever it is used for official SOFT activities. A PDF file is available for members from either the Secretary or Web-Site Manager upon request.

Dr. Wilkins then reported that enhancement of on-line capabilities of the membership database, such as status of membership applications, is being explored by the Secretary and Web Master. Suggestions for improvement of these areas of the SOFT website from the membership are encouraged.

Treasurer's Report:

Christine Moore, Ph.D., DABCC

Dr. Moore reported that SOFT is in good financial condition. The SOFT account balance is \$287,708.56 as of August 31, 2005. The reserve account has \$50,000, and the ERA fund has \$165,860.27. This leaves an Operational Balance of \$71,848.29. That balance, however, does not include the profit of approximately \$67,500 from the 2004 annual meeting. Dr. Moore acknowledged the tremendous efforts of Dr. Marc LeBeau and Laurel Farrell for the successful annual meeting last year.

Vice President's and Committee Reports:

Timothy Rohrig, Ph.D., DABFT

Vice President Rohrig called on the committee chairs to give their reports:

A. Bylaws, Yale Caplan, Ph.D., DABFT

The committee is comprised of Yale Caplan (Chair), Robert Osiewicz and Thomas Kupiec. Dr. Caplan reported that the committee plans to review the newly revised SOFT Policies

and Procedures Manual for impact on bylaws when the manual is received. No other items have been received or are pending at this time.

B. Budget, Finance, & Audit, Bob Turk, Ph.D., DABFT

The committee is comprised of Robert Turk (Chair), Diana Garside, George Jackson and Dean Fritch. The committee has audited the 2004 SOFT Treasurer's Report, the SOFT Website expenses, and the financial report for the SOFT 2004 Annual Meeting. These three financial reports appeared to be in good order. Dr. Turk thanked the members of his committee for their efforts in reviewing these financial records.

C. Membership, Diana G. Wilkins, Ph.D.

Dr. Wilkins informed the membership that the Membership Committee has had an encouraging year with respect to growth in SOFT Membership. As of this date, SOFT Membership totaled 772, with 6 pending applications at this time. Membership is inclusive of 573 Full Members, 131 Associate Members, 17 Charter, 14 Retired Charter, 17 Retired, and 17 Student members. As of January 1, 2005, the Membership Committee has reviewed 88 SOFT applications. Current application and promotion forms are available on the SOFT web site.

D. ToxTalk, Joseph Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT

The Editorial Staff consists of Joseph Monforte (Editor), Donald Kippenberger, Daniel Anderson, Matthew Barnhill and Andrew Mason. The ToxTalk publisher is Patricia Mohn-Monforte. All scheduled issues of ToxTalk were mailed in a timely manner. Case reports continue to comprise a significant component of the publication. The volume of case reports submitted for inhalants was so large that they were divided between two separate issues. Bulk mail continues to minimize the cost of mailing ToxTalk to members within the United States. Dr. Monforte noted that this is the 29th year of ToxTalk publication; 2006 will be its 30th year as an official publication of the organization. A special historical issue is planned during the upcoming year which should be of special interest to the membership. Dr. Monforte thanked the Editorial Staff for their extremely valuable contributions to the continued success of ToxTalk. Vice President Rohrig then thanked Dr. Monforte for his considerable efforts and dedication as ToxTalk Editor over the past year.

E. Publications Committee, Jeri Roper-Miller, Ph.D.

Dr. Roper-Miller, Guest Editor, reported that this year's SOFT Special Issue of JAT was a huge success. A total of 38 manuscripts were received for review. Of these submitted manuscripts, 17 full-length articles, 6 technical notes, 7 case reports, and 1 letter to the editor were accepted. Forty-five individuals volunteered their time and effort to review these manuscripts in a timely manner. Dr. Roper-Miller recognized the efforts of the reviewers. She also recommended continued use of an e-mail submission and review process to facilitate the generation of a successful issue. Publisher Tinsley Preston of the Journal

of Analytical Toxicology then presented a plaque to Jeri in recognition of her work toward the successful publication of the SOFT Special Issue.

F. Awards Committee (Education Research Award and Young Scientist Meeting Award), Philip Kemp Ph.D., DABFT

The committee members include Philip Kemp (Chair), Vina Spiehler and Thomas Kupiec. The committee recommended the award of two Educational Research Awards (ERA) for 2005. The ERA recipients are: Jessica Jennings and Romina Kaushik. Dr. Kemp presented plaques to both award recipients and acknowledged their research efforts. No Young Scientist Award applications were received this year. The committee encourages senior scientists to continue to encourage the efforts of the younger scientists in their laboratories.

G. Other Awards

On behalf of the Journal of Toxicology, publisher Tinsley Preston and Bruce Goldberger (JAT Editor) presented an award to the SOFT organization in special recognition of 25 years of successful association in the joint publication of the JAT SOFT Special Issue.

H. Meeting Resource Committee, Vickie Watts, M.S.

2005 Nashville, TN - Louis Kuykendall
Louis Kuykendall thanked the membership for the opportunity to host the 2005 Meeting. As noted earlier, Dr. Jones, the total number of registrants for the current 2005 meeting has exceeded 800 individuals, as well as over 76 participating vendors and sponsors. Fifty three platform presentations and 59 poster presentations will be presented during the week. Full-day and half-day workshops were well-attended and successful. Social events have been organized for every evening. A final financial report for the 2005 annual meeting will be available at the next SOFT Board of Directors meeting, scheduled for February 2006.

2006 Austin, TX - Rod McCutcheon

Rod McCutcheon reported that his organizing group is excited about hosting the meeting in Austin next year. The organizing committee consists of: Dr. Fiona Couper (Program Chair), Dr. Jeri Roper-Miller (Workshop Chair), Laurel Farrell (Meeting Treasurer), Vickie Watts (Meeting Coordinator), Vendor Liaison (Lisa O'Dell), and Dr. Bruce Goldberger (Meeting Web Master). The organizing committee is still accepting suggestions for workshop ideas. The meeting will be held at the Hilton Austin (downtown). Many exciting scientific and social events are planned for October 3rd-7th, 2006. Hope to see everyone at the 2006 Annual Meeting!

**2006 SOFT ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
will take place in Austin
THURSDAY - OCTOBER 5TH 3:30 TO 5:30**

(2005 Minutes continued next page)

Dr. Jones then announced the future meeting sites and hosts are:

2007	Chapel Hill, NC – Ruth Winecker/Jeri Roper Miller
2008	Phoenix, AZ - Vickie Watts
2009	Oklahoma City, OK - Philip Kemp
2010	Richmond, VA - Michelle Peace

I. Laboratory Guidelines, Lee Hearn, Ph.D.

The committee is comprised of Lee Hearn (Chair), Rob Middleberg, Barry Logan, Graham Jones and Rod McCutcheon. The committee completed a draft revision of the Laboratory Guidelines document and posted it on the SOFT Website in May of this year. Several comments from SOFT members were considered by the committee. It was decided to leave the draft document as written and to consider the recommended changes in the next revision cycle. Therefore, Dr. Hearn indicated that, on behalf of the committee, he plans to move the acceptance of the revised Guidelines document as an official SOFT position at a later point in the 2005 Business Meeting.

J. Drugs and Driving Committee, Sarah Kerrigan, Ph.D./Laurel Farrell, B.A.

Laurel Farrell reported on behalf of Dr. Kerrigan. There are 29 active members on this committee. The committee was recently re-organized into three subcommittees to more effectively address some of the specific tasks assigned in the NSC/NHTSA draft report entitled "Priorities and Strategies for Improving Investigation, Toxicology and Prosecution of Drug Impaired Driving Cases". The three subcommittees include: 1) Training and Outreach, 2) Laboratory Guidelines, and 3) Internet and Resources. The responsibilities of the Training and Outreach Subcommittee include: coordination of committee-sponsored training at both SOFT and AAFS meetings in the form of workshops and special sessions, or other formats; regional training opportunities; serve as a liaison with the SOFT Continuing Education Committee; and distance learning projects. The responsibilities of the Laboratory Guidelines Subcommittee include: collection of DRE survey data; serve as a liaison with laboratories performing DRE casework; and model practices for laboratories. The responsibilities of the Internet and Resources Subcommittee include: identification and coordination of DUID resources for use on the dedicated website. Michelle Spirk, Laurel Farrell, and Chip Walls have agreed to coordinate activities within the three subcommittees. Currently, the Training and Outreach subcommittee has been very busy coordinating workshops at various regional meetings, as well as the 2005 SOFT meeting. A very successful workshop was held earlier in the week. Laurel recognized the efforts of Michelle Spirk and Sarah Kerrigan, as well as committee members who served as faculty, in putting together the workshop. The Laboratory Guidelines subcommittee has also been very active; the survey of laboratories supporting the DRE program and DUID casework is nearing completion. Recommendations from the subcommittee will be presented at the 2006 AAFS Drugs and Driving Special Session.

K. Policies and Procedures, William Anderson, Ph.D., DABFT

The committee is comprised of William Anderson (Chair), Marilyn Huestis, Ashraf Mozayani, and Peter Stout. All minutes submitted to the committee have been entered into the database. The Policy and Procedures Manual has been updated to include all meeting minutes submitted to the committee. The only major update of note has been the addition of the SOFT Webmaster as an *ex officio* member of the SOFT Board.

L. Website, Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D., DABFT

Dr. Goldberger thanked SOFT for the opportunity to assist in the development of the website. Due to the recent closure of MemberBreeze (SOFT's website manager), alternative arrangements have been made for SOFT's website needs. The SOFT website was moved to a new server in Colorado Springs which is maintained by Colorado Information Technologies, Inc. The transition was smooth, although a slight delay occurred in the availability of on-line registration for the 2005 annual meeting. In addition, Dr. Goldberger has initiated service with a new web-consultant (Paul Lubbers) and web-programmer (InnSolutions).

General statistics for the period of 6/10/05-10/16/05 include: 1) bandwidth of 6.7 GB, 2) 38,064 visits to the site, and 3) 1,275,181 successful "hits". Other continuing activities of the WebMaster have included maintenance and content of the employment exchange. Dr. Goldberger encouraged the SOFT membership to post their technician-level laboratory positions on the SOFT website.

President Jones thanked Dr. Goldberger for his efforts in support of this important SOFT resource.

M. Continuing Education Committee, Anne Marie Gordon, M.S.

The committee members are Ann Marie Gordon (Chair), Rebecca Jufer, Robert Sears, Vincent Papa, Chris Chronister, Kabrena Goeringer, Jane Clarkston, Pat Pizzo, and William Johnson. Three very successful regional workshops have been recently sponsored by this committee. Other potential locations for regional workshops are under development. The committee is continuing to develop training seminars for the bench-level toxicologists who often do not get opportunities to attend SOFT meetings. Regional workshops continue to be a huge educational success, and budgets remain "break-even". The c-Committee is exploring other avenues of providing inexpensive continuing education, including web-based training.

N. Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault Committee, Marc LeBeau, MS.

Dr. LeBeau reported there are currently 11 committee members on this very active committee. The Education and Outreach Subcommittee has completed and distributed a CD with PowerPoint presentations to core committee members. SOFT members may use these presentations for training purposes; however, members are asked to

report back to the committee on the specific training conducted. The Guidance Subcommittee has completed the final version of the "Proposed Maximum Cut-off Values in Urine" table that can be used by both laboratories and law enforcement officials for DFSA casework. The Research Subcommittee has distributed copies of a survey intended to acquire information from laboratories performing DFSA. The committee is collecting data on detection limits and drugs included for testing in DFSA. Finally, Dr. LeBeau announced that the next committee meeting would be held on October 20th at 5:30 pm. Interested members are invited to attend.

O. Ethics Committee, Aaron Jacobs, Ph.D.

The committee is comprised of Aaron Jacobs (Chair), Jane Speaker, Bob Zettl, and Jesse Bidanset. There are no pending actions at this time.

P. MS/MS Guidelines Committee, John Cody, PhD.

The MS/MS Guidelines Committee consists of John Cody (Chair), Rod McCutcheon, Chip Walls, Matt Slawson, and Anthony Costantino. Additional advisors to the committee include Richard Hildebrand and Maciej Bogusz. Additional committee members will be added in the future. This committee is newly-formed to develop proposed guidelines for identification of compounds of interest to forensic toxicology by mass spectrometry, using newer approaches (such as GC-LC/MS, MS/MS, MSn, and TOF). When possible, the committee will coordinate the development of its recommendations with those of other agencies that have already developed this type of criteria (such as WADA, NCCLS, etc).

Q. Nominating Committee, Daniel Isenschmid, PhD., DABFT

The committee members are Daniel Isenschmid (Chair), Barry Levine, and Robert Zettl. Dr. Isenschmid reported for the committee and noted that the committee utilized the guidelines developed under the direction of the previous Nominating Committee, chaired by Laurel Farrell. The slate of nominees has been published in ToxTalk as follows: Timothy Rohrig (President, 1-yr term); Diana Wilkins (Vice-President, 1-yr term); Anthony Costantino (Secretary, 2-yr term); Ashraf Mozayani (Director, 3-yr term).

Dr. Jones thanked the committee chairs and committee members again for their valuable contributions to the SOFT organization.

Unfinished Business: President Jones

President Jones asked if there was any unfinished business. Louis Kuykendall announced the location of buses that will take members to the General Jackson Riverboat event.

New Business: President Jones

Awards and Recognition

President Jones thanked the outgoing officers and directors of SOFT and presented each of the following individuals with a plaque – Board of Directors; Ashraf Moyazani, PhD.; Vice-President, Timothy Rohrig, Ph.D.; and Secretary, Diana Wilkins, PhD.

Vice-President Timothy Rohrig then thanked President Jones for his leadership and friendship over the past year and presented Dr. Jones with a plaque in recognition of his outstanding contributions to SOFT.

Nominations and Elections

No nominations for SOFT officers or directors were received from the floor. Motions were made and seconded to accept the nominations for each position, as submitted by the Nominating Committee. All officers and directors were elected by acclamation. The newly elected 2006 SOFT officers and directors are as follows:

Timothy Rohrig, Ph.D., DABFT:

President, 1-yr term

Diana Wilkins, Ph.D.:

Vice-President, 1-yr term

Anthony Costantino, Ph.D., DABFT:

Secretary, 2-yr term

Ashraf Mozayani, Ph.D., PharmD, DABFT: Director, 3-yr term

Incoming President's Remarks: Timothy Rohrig, Ph.D., DABFT

Newly elected President-elect Timothy Rohrig presented a few brief remarks and again thanked outgoing President Jones for his tremendous work as SC President over the past year. Dr. Rohrig also announced that the guest editor for the next SOFT JAT Special Issue will be Dr. Marc LeBeau.

SOFT Volume of Distribution Statement: President Jones

President Jones presented some brief background on the development of the proposed SOFT position statement on the use of volume of distribution calculations in post-mortem cases. The draft document was published in ToxTalk and posted on the SOFT website for review by the membership.

A motion was made from the floor to accept the document as posted on the SOFT website and as published in ToxTalk. President Jones then called for discussion and comments. The merits and potential problems associated with the adoption of the position statement were discussed by the membership. The issue of misapplication of clinical pharmacology principles to post-mortem casework is occurring with increased frequency in legal settings. Significant concern was expressed over this practice by several SOFT members. However, while the membership did not express disagreement with the scientific content of the document, there were concerns regarding the general practice of issuing position statements by the SOFT organization. Some members expressed concern at SOFT providing interpretive statements on single issues, well as procedures for modifying and revising the document in the future. Other members were concerned about the potential misuse of such a document. After considerable

discussion, the motion was called and was defeated by majority vote of the SOFT membership.

2006 Laboratory Guidelines

A motion was made and seconded to accept the draft SOFT/AAFS Laboratory Guidelines document that was posted on the SOFT website. After brief discussion, it was suggested that section 12.2 (pertaining to volume of distribution calculations) be omitted in light of the earlier discussion at this meeting. A motion was made to amend the Laboratory Guidelines and delete item 12.2. The motion was seconded and approved by majority. A second motion was then made to approve the draft SOFT/AAFS Laboratory Guidelines, as amended. The motion was seconded and approved by majority.

Other Awards

Michael Telepchak presented two awards to recognize excellence in solid phase extraction techniques (SPE). This is the first year that these awards were presented at an Annual Meeting. The first award was presented to Dr. Bruce Goldberger for his work in publicizing solid phase extraction techniques. The second award was presented to the laboratory of Dr. Marilyn Huestis (Chemistry and Drug Metabolism Division, Intramural Research Program, NIDA) for the development and use of solid phase techniques in published analytical procedures. Dr. Huestis then thanked the numerous members of her laboratory who contributed to the publications.

Session Reports

American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT), Yale Caplan, Ph.D., DABFT

Dr. Caplan reported on the status of the ABFT certification program. There have been requests for non-North American applicants to apply for certification. The criteria have been established so that non-North American applicants are eligible for the examination; however, the exam will only be administered in English- and, in locations in either the US or Canada. Dr. Caplan then announced that a reception and certificate ceremony will be held at 5pm on October 20th. Three new individuals have been certified at this 2005 Annual Meeting. Next, Dr. Caplan

announced that the laboratory certification program is progressing well; 21 laboratories are now accredited under the ABFT program. Five new laboratories were accredited in 2005. Dr. Caplan encouraged laboratories to participate in this important program.

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS): Adam Negrusz, Ph.D.

Dr. Negrusz announced that the Steering Committee for AAFS will meet at 5:15 pm on October 20th.

Midwest Association (MATT): Laureen Marinetti, PhD.

The next meeting of MATT, to be held on May 4th-5th in Peoria, Illinois, will be hosted by Don Frederick.

Forensic Toxicology Certification Board (FTCB): John Cody, Ph.D.

Dr. Cody invited anyone interested in the certification by FTCB to contact him, Robert Sears, or Amanda Jenkins for further information.

The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (TIAFT): Marilyn Huestis, Ph.D.

Dr. Huestis noted that the TIAFT meeting in Seoul, South Korea was a great success. Next year's meeting will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Pascal Kintz is the new TIAFT President. Dan Isenschmid has been elected Treasurer of TIAFT.

Southwest Association of Toxicologists (SAT): Rod McCutcheon, PhD.

The next meeting of the Southwest Association will be held in Houston.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6.10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana G. Wilkins, Ph.D.
SOFT Secretary, 2004-2006

Minutes subject to final adoption at the 2006 SOFT Annual Business Meeting ✍

SOFT MOVES TO NEW OFFICE SPACE

As of June 1, 2006, SOFT offices will now be housed in an office complex. The new address is:

Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.
One MacDonald Center
1 N. MacDonald St., Suite 15
Mesa, AZ 85201

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.*. Monday through Friday
Telephone/FAX: 480-839-9106
Toll-Free Number: 1-888-866 – SOFT (7638)

SOFT Administrative Assistant, Bonnie Fulmer, will be available during the hours noted. *Please remember that Arizona does not participate in daylight savings time. In the fall it begins Mountain Time then is equal to Pacific Time in the spring.

ELMER GORDON OPEN FORUM AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Congratulations to **Mike Moore** and the entire staff at the Wyoming Laboratory Chemical Testing Program which was recently honored by the Wyoming Council on Impaired Driving for its efforts relative to impaired driving issues in that state. Mike has also been appointed to represent the Wyoming Dept of Health on the Council. ☺

**DON'T DELAY:
REGISTER FOR THE 2006 SOFT MEETING TODAY**

PROFESSIONAL CALENDAR

PREPARATIONS FOR FUTURE SOFT MEETINGS UNDERWAY

2006:

Tuesday, October 3 through Saturday, October 7, 2006
(Delayed one day due to Yom Kippur on Monday)
Hilton Austin, 500 East 4th Street, Austin, TX
512-482-8000
Host: Rod McCutcheon, Chief Toxicologist, Bexar County
Office of the Medical Examiner, San Antonio, TX
210-335-4040 rmccutcheon@co.bexar.tx.us

2007:

October 14-19, 2007
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina
Co-hosts: Jeri Roper-Miller and
Ruth Winecker

2008: Phoenix, AZ– Vickie Watts

2009: Oklahoma City, OK – Phil Kemp

2010: Richmond, VA - Michelle Peace

Aug. 21-25: Canadian Society of Forensic Sciences, Windsor, Ontario, Canada (across from Detroit) . CSFS annual meeting. For further information, including 2 workshops of particular interest to forensic toxicologists, contact Dr. Robert Langille at Robert.Langille@jus.gov.on.ca

Aug. 26-Sept. 1: THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENCES, Ljubljana, Slovenia. Contact info@iafs2006.com or go to www.tiaft2006.org

Oct. 10-13: NY Academy of Sciences Oral-Based Diagnostics Conference, Lake Lanier Islands, GA (near Atlanta). Contact Renee Wilkerson at rwilkerson@nyas.org or go to www.nyas.org/oral.

SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF TOXICOLOGISTS (SAT). Fall 2006 Austin, TX (with SOFT) www.sat-tox.org

SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS (SWAFS). Go to www.swafs.us

2007: Annual Borkenstein Course "The Effects of Drugs on Human Performance and Behavior" and Borkenstein "Course on Alcohol and Highway Safety: Testing, Research and Litigation." Contact dlindsay@indiana.edu or www.indiana.edu/~lawactn ☺

**NEXT TOXTALK DEADLINE:
NOVEMBER 1, 2006**

7/16/06

SOFT 2006 ANNUAL MEETING

October 3 – 7, 2006 (Tuesday through Saturday)

Austin Hilton Hotel, Austin, TX

Host: Rod McCutcheon

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM *as of 7/15/06*

Sunday, October 1, 2006

- ☒ Pre-Conference Tours
- ☒ Satellite Organization Meetings

Monday, October 2, 2006

- ☒ Pre-Conference Tours
- ☒ CAP Inspector Training (1:00-5:00 PM)
- ☒ Satellite Organization Meetings
- ☒ Registration Opens (9:00 AM-6:00 PM)
- ☒ Dinner – on your own

Tuesday, October 3, 2006

- ☒ Continental Breakfast (7:00-8:30 AM)
- ☒ Registration (7:00 AM-6:00 PM)
- ☒ Workshops (7:30 and 8:00 AM-5:00 PM)
- ☒ Lunch – on your own
- ☒ Board mtgs., Committee mtgs., Exams
- ☒ Drugs and Driving Committee (5:00-6:30 PM)
- ☒ Dinner – on your own

Wednesday, October 4, 2006

- ☒ Continental Breakfast (7:00-8:30 AM)
- ☒ Registration (7:00 AM- 6:00 PM)
- ☒ Workshops (8:00 AM-5:00 PM)
- ☒ SOFT Board of Directors (7:00 AM-1:00 PM)
- ☒ Lunch – on your own
- ☒ Board mtgs., Committee mtgs., Exams
- ☒ Exhibits Setup (12:00-5:00 PM)
- ☒ SAT Business Meeting (5:00-6:00 PM)
- ☒ Exhibits Open (6:30- 8:00 PM)
- ☒ Welcoming Reception (6:30- 8:00 PM)
in Exhibit Hall
- ☒ Elmer Gordon Forum (8:00-10:00 PM)
- ☒ Nite Owl VII Reception (10:30 PM-12:30)

On-line registration is now available at
www.soft-tox.org
from the home page.

Thursday, October 5, 2006

- ☒ SOFT Fun Run/Walk (Town Lake Trail, 6:30-8:00 AM)
- ☒ Continental Breakfast (7:00-8:30 AM)
- ☒ Registration (7:30 AM-5:30 PM)
- ☒ Exhibits open (8:30 AM-3:30 PM)
- ☒ Plenary/Scientific Session (8:30 AM-10:00 AM)
- ☒ AM BREAK (10:00-10:30 AM)
- ☒ Poster Session (10:30 AM-12:00 PM)
- ☒ Lunch with Exhibitors (12:00-1:30 PM)
- ☒ DFSA Committee meeting (12:30-1:30 PM)
- ☒ Scientific Session (1:30-3:00 PM)
- ☒ PM BREAK (3:00-3:30 PM)
- ☒ SOFT Business Meeting (3:30-5:30 PM)
- ☒ "A Taste of Texas" Reception
- ☒ Exhibitor's Happy Hour (6:00-8:00 PM)
- ☒ "Explore Austin" on your own

Friday, October 6, 2006

- ☒ Continental Breakfast (7:00-8:30 AM)
- ☒ Registration (7:30 AM-5:00 PM)
- ☒ Exhibitor Feedback Meeting (8:00-9:30 AM)
- ☒ Exhibits open (9:30 AM-1:30 PM)
- ☒ Plenary/Scientific Session (8:30-10:00 AM)
- ☒ AM BREAK (10:00-10:30 AM)
- ☒ Poster Session (10:30 AM-12:00 PM)
- ☒ Lunch with Exhibitors (12:00-1:30 PM)
- ☒ Exhibits breakdown (1:30-5:30 PM)
- ☒ Scientific Session (1:30-3:00 PM)
- ☒ PM BREAK (3:00-3:30 PM)
- ☒ Poster Session (3:30-5:00 PM)
- ☒ Presidents Reception (7:00-11:00 PM)

Texas State History Museum

Saturday, October 7, 2006

- ☒ Continental Breakfast (7:30-9:00 AM)
- ☒ Registration (7:30 AM-9:00 PM)
- ☒ Closing Scientific Session (9:00-11:00 AM)
- ☒ NSC Executive Board (11:30 AM-1:30 PM)
- ☒ NLCP Inspector Training (2:00-6:00 PM)
- ☒ Post Conference Tours

As the process of registration is very different than past years, detailed instructions with screen-shots can be downloaded from the web-site.

Also note that we are not accepting abstracts through the web-site.
Please send them to Dr. Fiona Couper via e-mail (fiona.couper@dc.gov).



2006 Society of Forensic Toxicology Workshops

Austin, Texas

Chairperson: Jeri Roper-Miller (jerimiller@rti.org; 919-485-5685)

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 4, 2006					
6	Leland McClure AND Craig Sutheimer	Full	Wednesday: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	Excel Spread Sheet Design and Basic Statistics	This pilot course will be limited to 20 participants. The course provides hands on training for spreadsheet setup and tool options that facilitate data entry and analysis. An overview of basic statistics and data distribution is included to enable users to select appropriate statistical tools for data analysis and hypothesis testing.
7	Steven Wong AND Ruth Winecker	1/2	Wednesday: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm	Addiction and Pain Management for forensic toxicologists – Update on drug therapy, clinical and forensic toxicology and the emerging role of pharmacogenomics	This workshop will begin with an update on the epidemiology of addiction and pain. Then, two separate presentations (addiction and pain management) will address the role of drug therapy and other therapy. The roles of pharmacogenomics and pharmacoproteomics for addiction and pain management will be presented. Case presentations on drug toxicity for addiction and pain management encountered in clinical/treatment and postmortem settings will conclude the workshop.
8	Steven Wong AND Randal Schneider	1/2	Wednesday: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm	New Antidepressants & Antiepileptics: Clinical Pharmacology, Pharmacogenomics, Gene Expression, and Neurobiology of Depression and Suicide and Forensic Toxicology	This workshop will update on the "new" antidepressants and antiepileptics and their clinical applications as compared to the more established drugs. The relationship of brain gene expression and neurobiology of depression and suicide would be explored. Both clinical and forensic case presentations will demonstrate the relationship of plasma/blood concentration and drug-drug interactions and the possible role of pharmacogenomics for the interpretation of drug toxicity.
9	Ann Marie Gordon AND Jayne Clarkson	1/2	Wednesday: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm	CE Committee: How Does Your QA/QC Program Measure Up?	This workshop offered by the SOFT Continuing Education Committee will focus on practical approaches to Quality Assurance and Quality Control topics. The workshop format will be driven by a comprehensive survey of multiple forensic laboratories with respect to how everyday QA/QC questions are handled. The surveyed labs will vary from those (rare) labs with unlimited resources to those with large case loads and limited resources. Discussions will focus on balancing a quality assurance program while meeting the expectations of clients/users. A panel discussion will address audience questions so come prepared with your most challenging QA/QC problems.
10	Mike Schaffer AND Alphonse Poklis	1/2 day	Wednesday: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm	The Application of Hair as an Alternate Matrix for Forensic Applications	This workshop will provide a thorough introduction to hair testing, with discussion of the issues surrounding a successful hair test. This will include collection, washing, extraction, initial and MS confirmatory analyses, and interpretation of results, considering cutoff levels, use of metabolite and wash criteria, and the ability of hair to indicate degree of drug use when adequate washing is performed. Cases involving workplace testing and applications outside of employment testing, both from the U.S. and Europe, will be discussed in a medical legal setting. Pitfalls of hair testing, and relevant safeguards in this regard, will also be presented.

SOFT 2006 ANNUAL MEETING - AUSTIN, TEXAS - October 3-7, 2006

REGISTRATION WORKSHEET

On-Site registration only after September 22nd

Name _____ Degree _____
 Name to appear on badge _____
 Title _____ Agency _____
 Address _____ E-mail _____
 Telephone _____ Fax _____
 Accompanying Person(s) _____

MEETING REGISTRATION	Member	Non-Member	Qty.	TOTAL
FULL MEETING REGISTRATION (Late Fee Applies after 9/01/06) Includes: Admission to scientific sessions, Abstract Book, SOFT Pack, Coffee Breaks, Continental Breakfasts, Welcoming Reception, Luncheons, Happy Hours, Elmer Gordon Forum, and President's Reception	\$195.00	\$295.00	___	\$ _____ enter shirt size _____
ACCOMPANYING PERSON REGISTRATION (<u>Available only with full meeting registration</u>). Includes: All the above <u>except</u> Abstract Book... enter shirt size online	\$195.00	\$295.00	___	\$ _____ shirt size _____
FULL-TIME STUDENT (Proof of full-time status required)	\$95.00	\$95.00	___	\$ _____
LATE-FEE (Applies after September 1 to EACH of above registrations) After September 22, 2006, only On-Site Registration is available.	\$100.00	\$100.00	___	\$ _____
ADDITIONAL TICKETS - Welcome, A Taste of Texas, & President's Receptions (tickets for non-registrants only available prior to 9/23/06)	\$95.00	\$115.00	___	\$ _____
ON-SITE REGISTRATION (President's Reception and SOFT Pack NOT included)	\$395.00	\$495.00	___	\$ _____
Workshop #1: DUID Committee: Standardized Field Sobriety Tests – Principles and Practice. (Full day)- Tues (8:00 – 5:00)	\$120.00	\$150.00	___	\$ _____
Workshop #2: CE Committee: Opiate Fields Forever. (Full Day)- Tues (8:00-5:00) .	\$120.00	\$150.00	___	\$ _____
Workshop #3: Method Validation and Measurement: Uncertainty for Dummies ... and Smarties, Too, (1/2 day) Tues (7:30-12:00)	\$60.00	\$75.00	___	\$ _____
Workshop #4: Postmortem Pharmacokinetics: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly. (1/2 day)- Tues (1:00-5:00)	\$60.00	\$75.00	___	\$ _____
Workshop #5: Doping: Testing for Doping Substances and the Organization of Doping Control Efforts- (1/2 day) Tues (8:00-12:00)	\$60.00	\$75.00	___	\$ _____
Workshop #6: Excel Spread Sheet Design and Basic Statistics. (Full day) Wed (8:00-5:00)	\$120.00	\$150.00	___	\$ _____
Workshop #7: Addiction and Pain Management for Toxicologist... (1/2 day) Wed (8:00-12:00)	\$60.00	\$75.00	___	\$ _____
Workshop #8: New Antidepressants & Antiepileptics.... (1/2 day) Wed (1:00-5:00)	\$60.00	\$75.00	___	\$ _____
Workshop #9: CE Committee: How Does Your QA/QC Program Measure Up? (1/2 day) Wed (8:00-12:00)	\$60.00	\$75.00	___	\$ _____
Workshop #10: The Application of Hair as an Alternative Matrix for Forensic Applications. (1/2 day) Wed (1:00-5:00)	\$60.00	\$75.00	___	\$ _____
ID BADGE WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ALL FUNCTIONS. TICKET REQUIRED FOR PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION.			TOTAL	\$ _____

LATE FEE applies for all registrations received after **Friday, September 1, 2006**. Deadline for registration online at <http://www.soft-tox.org> is **Friday, September 22, 2006**. **Payment on the SOFT Registration website**, a secure site, which accepts the most major credit cards or payment through routing of checks drawn on a US bank or International Bank.

Refund policy: Refunds will be honored upon written request prior to 09/01/06 minus a \$100 fee. **NO refunds after 09/01/06.**



10th ANNUAL



TOX 'N PURGE 5k "Town Lake Trail" FUN RUN/WALK

WHEN:

2006 S.O.F.T. Meeting
Thursday,
October 5th, 2006
6:30 AM



WHERE:

Hilton Austin Hotel
Austin, Texas

Registration Includes:

10th ANNUAL TOX 'N PURGE T-Shirt
Prizes for 1st place (men and women) and
random drawings after run for other prizes



S.O.F.T. TOX 'N PURGE 5K FUN RUN/WALK

Thursday, October 5, 2006 • 6:30 AM • Entry Fee: \$10 • Make checks payable to Vickie Watts (TOX 'N PURGE FUN RUN/WALK) • Mail to: Vickie Watts, Forensic Toxicology Consultant, 14427 S 140th Place, Gilbert, AZ 85296

NAME

First

Last

ADDRESS

SHIRT SIZE

L X

CITY

STATE

ZIP

SEX

 M F

AGE ON
RACE DAY

PHONE

5K RUN

WALK

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Liability waiver must be signed before mailing

I know that running a road race is a potentially hazardous activity and that I should not enter and run unless I am medically able and properly trained. I agree to abide by any decision of a race official relative to my ability to safely complete the run. I assume all risks associated with running in this event including, but not limited to: falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, including high heat and /or humidity, altitude, traffic and the conditions of the road, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waive and release the organizers of the S.O.F.T. TOX 'N PURGE 5K FUN RUN/WALK and all other sponsors, their representatives and successors from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event or carelessness on the part of the persons in this waiver. Further, I grant permission to all of the foregoing to use any photographs, motion pictures, recordings, or any other record of this event for legitimate purposes.

Signature (parent or guardian if under 18)

Date

Yale H. Caplan, Ph.D., DABFT, President

ABFT ACCREDITED BY THE FORENSIC SPECIALTIES ACCREDITATION BOARD

The Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board (FSAB) was formed in 2000 as an entity to objectively assess, recognize, and monitor various professional boards that certify individual forensic scientists and other forensic specialists. The voluntary program has promulgated standards that include evaluation of the mechanisms used to establish the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the applicants, the required education and training of the applicants, and the organization, management, policies and procedures and certification standards of the Board. A continuing education program and a statement of ethics and professional standards are also required.

The ABFT is pleased to announce that it has been accredited by the FSAB at action taken at the FSAB's annual meeting in February. The ABFT is the fourth board accredited by the FSAB. ABFT accreditation followed a comprehensive review of ABFT's certification activities and the submission of a detailed application that required an extensive effort by all the Directors of ABFT. Recognition of ABFT by FSAB validates the credibility of the certification process and of those certified by ABFT.

ABFT ANNOUNCES A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW CERTIFICANTS WHO APPLY FOR CERTIFICATION BY DECEMBER 31, 2006

In honor of ABFT's recent recognition by FSAB, ABFT is encouraging forensic toxicologists to apply for Diplomate or Forensic Toxicology Specialist certification. The \$300.00 application fee will be waived for the first 20 applications received by December 31, 2006. Applications must be completed by June 30, 2007. All other requirements for certification will continue to apply. Further information and application forms can be obtained from the ABFT website: www.abft.org or by contacting Kimberly Wrasse at the ABFT (FSF/AAFS) office at (719) 636-1100.

----- *DETAILS ON PAGE 4* -----

Plan to attend ABFT Activities in Austin at the SOFT Annual Meeting

Wednesday, October 4 8:00-12:00 AM Examination

Candidates who have registered to take the examination at the SOFT meeting will be contacted by Fred Fochtman, Ph.D., DABFT, Chair of the Examination Committee, with specific instructions.

Friday, October 6 5:00-6:00 PM Certificant Reception and
Presentation of Certificates

Open only to ABFT Certificants. Come and join the discussions.

CERTIFICANT ACTIVITY

New Emeritus Diplomate

Shaw, Richard

Diplomates Requalified in 2006

Andrenyak, David	Hepler, Bradford	McMullin, Matthew
Barnhill, Matthew	Kuhlman, James	Osiewicz, Robert
Caplis, Michael	Kuntz, David	Rehberg, Michael
Cohn, Richard	Levine, Barry	Schaffer, Michael
Dunn, William	LoDico, Charles	Tarver, John
Ferslew, Kenneth	Logan, Barry	Turk, Robert
Fochtman, Frederick	Long, Christopher	Weingarten, Halle
Fraser, Albert	McCurdy, Horton	Wu Chen, Nancy
Hardin, Glenn	McCutcheon, Rod	

Forensic Toxicology Specialists Requalified in 2006

Fortner, Neal

Hutchison, James

There are currently 116 Diplomates and
22 Forensic Toxicology Specialists certified and
34 Emeritus Diplomates recognized by the Board.

NEW LABORATORY ACCREDITED IN 2006

Ameritox Laboratory (L022)
Midland, Texas
Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT, Director

There are currently 22 laboratories accredited by ABFT.

A complete listing of accredited laboratories can be found on ABFT's website www.abft.org

ABFT ANNOUNCES NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

At the ABFT annual meeting in February, the following were re-elected to three-year terms as Directors of the Board.

Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D., DABFT

Barry Logan, Ph.D., DABFT

Graham Jones, Ph.D., DABFT

Horton McCurdy, Ph.D., DABFT

Robert Osiewicz, Ph.D., DABFT

The Board's officers were reelected to one-year terms.

President:

Yale H. Caplan, Ph.D., DABFT

Vice-President:

Marina Stajic, Ph.D., DABFT

Secretary:

Daniel S. Isenschmid, Ph.D., DABFT

Treasurer:

Bruce A. Goldberger, Ph.D., DABFT,

2006-2007 ABFT NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTED

The nominating committee is chaired by Secretary Daniel Isenschmid, Ph.D., DABFT. The members serving staggered terms are:

Joseph Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT

Bradford Hepler, Ph.D., DABFT

Richard Shaw, B.S., DABFT

Barry Levine, Ph.D., DABFT

Elizabeth Spratt, M.S., DABFT



410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Phone: (719) 636-1100 • Fax: (719) 636-1993 • Website: www.abft.org

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

\$300 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION FEE WAIVED THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2006

ABFT has recently been accredited by the Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board. This accreditation follows an extensive review of ABFT's certification standards and processes and validates the Diplomate and Forensic Toxicology Specialist Certificates issued by the ABFT.

To celebrate this milestone, the ABFT is waiving the \$300.00 certification fee for the first 20 individuals who apply for certification by December 31, 2006, then complete the application process by June 30, 2007. All other requirements remain the same. Information on certification programs can be obtained on the web site at www.abft.org or by calling or writing to the office at:

ABFT Administration Office
410 North 21st Street
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80904
(719) 636-1100