

## **Annual report Netherlands Society of Toxicology (NVT) 2022**

### Board

From January 2022 to May 2022, the board of the Netherlands Society of Toxicology (NVT) consisted of the following individuals: Juliette Legler (president), Paul Jennings (vice-president), Hester Hendriks (secretary of the board), Yvonne Staal (secretary of the society), Peter Theunissen (treasurer), Hans Bouwmeester (board member), Anne Kienhuis (board member) and Martijn Rooseboom (board member).

During the annual meeting in May 2022, Martijn Rooseboom, who joined the board for six years, left the board. His effort was much appreciated.

From the annual meeting in May 2022 to December 2022, the societies board consisted of the following individuals: Paul Jennings (president), Juliette Legler (vice-president), Hester Hendriks (secretary of the board), Yvonne Staal (secretary of the society), Peter Theunissen (treasurer), Laura Hondebrink (future treasurer), Hans Bouwmeester (board member), Anne Kienhuis (board member) and Joanne Salverda (board member).

The board met six times in the year 2022.

### Committees and Sections

The following individuals represented the various committees and sections of the society to the board in 2022:

- Henri Heussen (Occupational Toxicology)
- Milo de Baat (Environmental Toxicology)
- Jan van Benthem and Mirjam Luijten (Genetic Toxicology)
- Kim Doornebosch (Risk Assessment)
- Manon Beekhuizen (Teratology and Reproductive Toxicology)
- Joost Lensen (Toxicological Pathology)
- Yolanda Ponstein (Pharmaceutical Toxicology)
- Hans Bouwmeester (Supervisory Committee PET)
- Jochem Louise (Registration Committee)
- Flemming Cassee (Concilium Toxicologicum)
- Anja Slikkerveer (Committee for Appeal)
- Barae Jomaa (Editorial board TCDD and website)
- Martijn van Velthoven (Audit Committee)

The NVT bookkeeping was done by Tom Schirris. The audit control committee consisted of Karin van Ede and Martijn van Velthoven.

Since its inception, the society has functioned largely through the committees and sections, each of which deals with a specific subfield of toxicology. Details of the activities of the committees and sections can be found in their individual 2022 annual reports.

### Annual meeting 2022

In 2022, the annual NVT meeting was held live and in person again at the Reehorst in Ede. A total of almost 200 professionals, PhD candidates and students attended the two-day event. The theme of the annual meeting was: Green Deal, toxicology matter(s). The organizing committee consisted of Hans Bouwmeester, Paul Jennings, Martijn Rooseboom, Peter Theunissen, Annemijne van den Berg, Joyce van der Heijden, Merel van der Most, Lennart van Melis, Nienke Ruijter, Fabian Wagenaars.

On the first day (May 24, 2022), the first Keynote lecture was by dr. Matthias Herzler, followed by a break which was combined with a poster session. Subsequently, three PhD candidates (Hedwig van Hove, Wenbo Wu and Tim Somers) presented their research. The first themed session on 'Non-standard endpoints' (NSE) was given by Nico van den Brink, Harm Heusinkveld and Raymond Pieters. The second themed session on 'New generation risk assessment' was given by Dinant Kroese, Andrew White, and Mark Cronin. The Joep van den Bercken prize 2021 was awarded to Emma Kasteel for her thesis entitled 'Next Generation Risk Assessment of Chemicals: *in vitro* and *in silico* approaches to work towards enough precision to make a decision'. The closing session on the first day was about 'Future proofing the NVT: moving our sections forward'. A survey was sent to all participants so the board could know more about the opinions of NVT members on the current sections and if they have new ideas for the future of the sections. The results were discussed during the session. Afterwards it was time for a reception with drinks and a walking dinner at the Reehorst. During the evening program, a fierce pool competition was held at Q's pool centrum.

The second day (May 25, 2022), the 'young scientist' day, was opened with a keynote lecture by Majorie van Duursen. Subsequently, PhD and MSc student were given the opportunity to present their research by speed presentations. In the next session, the participants attended one of the three workshops 'Safe-by-design – a serious game', 'Theatre skills', or 'Introduction to benchmark dose (BMD) analysis and PROAST'. The last session was a career session moderated by Lenny Kamelia and panellists Peter Theunissen, Martijn Rooseboom, and Majorie van Duursen. During the Award Ceremony, prizes were presented to:

- Participation award: Winnie Henderson (Utrecht University)
- MSc poster award: Celia Arenas González (Utrecht University)
- PhD poster award: Irene Gosselink (Maastricht University)
- MSc speed presentation award: Yara Minten (VU)
- PhD speed presentation award: Christy Tulen (Maastricht University)
- PhD platform presentation award: Hedwig van Hove (Radboudumc)

#### Finances

The 2022 finances have been approved by the audit committee. For more details, see the 2022 Annual Financial Report.

#### Travel bursaries

Three travel grants were awarded to PhD members in 2022. Travel reports were presented in the TCDD.

#### TCDD and Website

The TCDD was released four times in 2022.<sup>1</sup> The NVT website <https://toxicologie.nl/> is managed by Floris Groothuis, the overall webmaster is Flemming Cassee. The chief editor of TCDD is Barae Jomaa.

#### Membership and sponsorship

The membership of the Society as of December 31, 2022, was 611 members (December 2021: 592 members).

In 2022, NVT was sponsored by regular annual sponsors Arxada, Charles River, DSM, ExxonMobil, Nouryon, Reckitt, RIVM, Shell, TNO, Toxys.

#### Dissolution section Teratology and Reproductive Toxicology

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<sup>1</sup> Copies of the TCDD from 2013 can be found on the website (<https://toxicologie.nl/en/tcdd-newsletter/>), or at the National Library of the Netherlands (all volumes since 1978) under ISSN 2772-5065.

Due to a declining number of participants at the meetings of the Teratology and Reproductive Toxicology section, the section has decided to discontinue. One of the board members will join the Pharmaceutical Toxicology to represent the teratology and reproductive toxicology field. An official message on the dissolution of the section was presented in TCDD no.3 of 2022.<sup>2</sup>

#### Future proofing the NVT

To future proof our society and make sure we continue to connect with our members' interests and developments in the field, the NVT board has sent out a questionnaire last year (2022). The aim of this questionnaire was to learn the perspective of the NVT members on topics like how current sections fit with the field, the future of the NVT sections, topics to be added and how to promote interactions and collaborations between sections and other societies. In parallel to the questionnaire, the section boards discussed the future of the sections early February (2023), initiated by the section Risk Assessment. The outcome of the questionnaire as well as exchange of the sections point both towards a need for further discussion on how to future proof the NVT and its sections. To this end the NVT board proposes to start a working group 'Future Proofing' to further discuss and implement next steps with representatives from board, sections and members. The NVT board is inviting you as representative from either a section and/or as a member to participate in this working group and help us in Future Proofing the NVT on one of these themes. Please contact us if are interested to join, at [secretaris@toxicologie.nl](mailto:secretaris@toxicologie.nl).

#### Registration and re-registration

The list of educators was revised in 2022 and consists of 8 educators now. The registration committee aims to represent the main education places in the Netherlands in the list of educators, including educators working in applied toxicology in addition to educators from the academic.

#### IUTOX and EUROTOX

The 2022/2023 EUROTOX season started again with a major Dutch contribution:

- Theo de Kok as treasurer of the Executive Committee (EC) and member of the Communication SubCommittee
- Manon Beekhuijzen as member of the EC and Education SubCommittee
- Nynke Kramer as member of the Communication SubCommittee
- Paul Scheepers as member of the Registration SubCommittee

Also at IUTOX we have Dutch delegation:

- Henk van Loveren director of the Executive Committee, Scientific Committee and Education Committee

#### ICT 2022

Paul Jennings represented the NVT on the local organising committee (LOC) of the ICT2022. The meeting took place in Maastricht, Netherlands September 18 to 21st, 2022.

#### PET Courses

In 2022, the Postgraduate Education in Toxicology (PET) program continued in accordance with the requirements for recognition and registration of toxicologists set by the NVT. This year a new website was built, which was launched in March 2023.<sup>3</sup> The website provides information on the PET program and the 21 stand-alone courses coordinated by eight Dutch universities, and three Dutch organizations under the supervision of the NVT. The PET program offers the theoretical background

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<sup>2</sup> <https://toxicologie.nl/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/TCDD-03-2022.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://toxcourses.nl/>



required for registration as a toxicologist by the NVT and EUROTOX. The stand-alone courses are also suited to obtain in-depth knowledge in specific areas of toxicology for professionals.