

For Immediate Release

Virginia Tech Scientist Receives Distinguished Merit Award from Scientific Society

Reston, VA (January 12, 2010)—Marion F. Ehrich, Ph.D., is the recipient of the 2010 Merit Award from the Society of Toxicology (SOT) for her many contributions to toxicology throughout her career. Dr. Ehrich is a tenured professor of pharmacology and toxicology and the co-director of the Laboratory for Neurotoxicity Studies at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (VMRCVM) on the campus of Virginia Tech. Her research interests include biochemical neurotoxicology, especially immediate and delayed neurotoxic effects of organophosphate pesticides. In addition, she has been a pioneer in the use of *in vitro* systems for mechanistic studies and safety assessment in neurotoxicology, with potential contribution to a diminished need for animal use in chemical safety assessments. She is often called upon by both government and industry for her expertise in these areas.

Dr. Ehrich is a practicing registered pharmacist and pharmacy consultant to the VMRCVM, and served as SOT President 2003–2004. She is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, receiving a national teaching award from their student organization in 2006. She is also a member of the Academy of Toxicological Scientists, and the American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics. She has mentored more than 35 masters and doctoral level students. Dr. Ehrich's publications span over 35 years, including 300 book chapters, reviews, research, and educational publications.

Dr. Ehrich will be honored at an Awards ceremony during the SOT's 49th Annual Meeting and ToxExpo™, on Sunday, March 7, 2010 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Society of Toxicology is a scientific not-for-profit organization for professionals from around the world who are involved in the study of toxicology. With more than 6,000 members, the Society is creating a safer and healthier world by advancing the science of toxicology. SOT is a forum for novel discoveries and approaches related to toxicology, fosters integration of sub-disciplines that support the evolution of toxicology, and, among other things, increases the impact of toxicology on human health and disease prevention.

For additional information about the 2010 Annual Meeting and ToxExpo™ visit, <http://www.toxicology.org/AI/MEET/AM2010/>.

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