



## WELCOME TO THE 2015 SPRING ABAT NEWSLETTER

- WITH ALL YOUR LATEST NEWS

### President's Note:



Hello and welcome to your Spring ABAT newsletter. For me the big word is "Spring" as Minnesota has now gotten rid of all its snow (hopefully) and I can put away snowmobile suit. This newsletter focus's on our newest ABAT members. I hope you enjoy reading about them as much as I did. Our newest ABAT members come from all different backgrounds, are extremely intelligent and hard working. Besides that they live very active lives with family and hobbies. Somehow they have seemed to have attained a "life" somewhere amongst all their hard work and studying. (Something I still hope to attain one day!) The members are truly impressive and I hope you will give them a warm welcome to ABAT and encourage them to become involved, as we could definitely use their help in all the projects the ABAT board has going on. Currently ABAT board is hard at work writing the exams for our next hopeful future ABAT's, trying to increase the word to CSPI's, PhD's, nurses and clinical pharmacists about a future opportunities with ABAT and continuing to provide educational resources (LLSA and educational modules) for our members. If you have been involved in one of the ABAT committees I'd like to say thank you for all your hard work. If you haven't, please let one of our board members know if you are interested in helping as we are always in need of your help.

## New ABAT Members:



***Rachel Gorodetsky***

I earned my undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia with a BA in Russian language and literature. When I eventually realized that such a major would offer zero opportunities of making a living wage (although it did offer opportunities in the husband department), I decided pharmacy school was for me. I was all set to complete a PGY-1 general pharmacy practice residency and go on my merry way as a non-specialized clinical pharmacist, when a Toxicology rotation at the SUNY Upstate Poison Center changed my trajectory completely.

After my PGY-1, I went on to do a clinical toxicology fellowship at the Georgia Poison Center, graduating in 2011. I was then fortunate enough to be offered a clinical faculty position at the brand new D'Youville College School of Pharmacy in Buffalo, NY, with a clinical practice site at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, NY – home to one of the busiest bedside toxicology consult services in the country. There's never a dull moment.

I used to have hobbies including bicycling and ballroom dancing before I had a child, but now with a second child on the way, my 'hobbies' include doing laundry and stacking blocks. I also enjoy maintaining a poison garden at my home and collecting various toxicology-related swag.



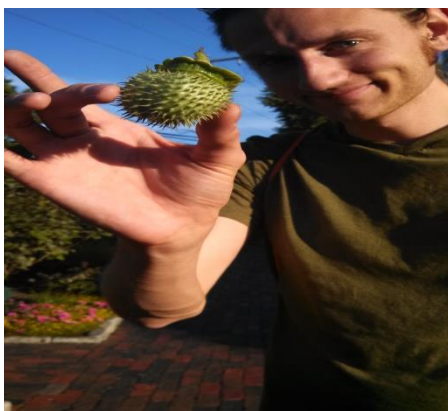
### ***Rachel Schult***

I completed 2 years of pre-pharmacy coursework and attended pharmacy school at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, RI. During school, I worked at a small hospital near campus as well as a retail pharmacy near Providence. My first exposure to toxicology was through a lecture provided in my drug information course about Poison Control Centers. I knew immediately that this was a field I wanted to know more about and hoped I would have the opportunity to get into the specialty.

My school had a rotation set up at the Florida/USVI Poison Information Center – Jacksonville which I was able to get scheduled as one of my electives. It was my favorite rotation and I was lucky to be offered the opportunity to stay on as one of their fellows. Over the course of my two years in Jacksonville, I explored the field of toxicology and also gained valuable experience in emergency medicine and critical care. Although I enjoyed my time in Jacksonville, I knew I wouldn't be able to handle the Southern heat for the rest of my life and pursued career opportunities closer to home.

I was again lucky to have the opportunity at a position about 35 minutes from home at the University of Rochester Medical Center in Rochester, NY. Here, we have a busy bedside toxicology consult service that serves as the main portion of my employment. I also contribute to our pharmacy department's staffing model in the emergency department which helps me to stay current in other areas of clinical practice. My toxicology interests include cardiovascular drug overdose, harm reduction, and addiction/withdrawal.

Outside of toxicology I enjoy reading novels, cooking, and watching bad TV with my husband. By far, our favorite hobby is keeping up with my husband's 10 year old son who keeps us busy with family game nights and youth football & baseball games. We are happy to be living back in our hometown and close to family.



### ***Dayne Laskey***

As many of us did, I went into pharmacy school for a love of science. I fell in love with toxicology on my emergency medicine rotation and never looked back. I completed my PGY-1 residency at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta in 2012, followed by a clinical toxicology fellowship through the Georgia Poison Center in 2013. If you're reading this, I don't need to tell you how awesome this job is. You already know.

I took a faculty position with the University of Saint Joseph School of Pharmacy in Connecticut where I coordinate several courses. I practice in the Hartford Hospital Emergency Department four days per week where I precept students and residents in our level 1 trauma center. I recently acquired a plot in Hartford's historic Elizabeth Park where I founded and maintain an evidence-based medicine garden for the university. Keeping true to my roots, I also cultivate a fair share of toxic plants including castor beans, monkshood, tobacco, datura, and digitalis. Yes, I know, I'm probably on a watch list of some sort by now.

That's what I do by day. By night, I am a disciple of rock and roll, playing keyboards in a rock band at venues around the state. I have a small infatuation with pianos and organs, and I have been programming synthesizers since I was a teenager. I augment this hobby with an interest in analog tube electronics and have built several custom guitar amplifiers. Tinkering with electronics has recently led to me designing and building aerial drones (don't worry, I'm not spying through your windows). I also enjoy boating, mountaineering, home brewing, and my 18 year old newt Isaac Newton.

I'm honored and thrilled to be joining the ranks of ABAT!



***Karen Thomas***

My toxicology background is a little different than most. I was lucky to have the opportunity to participate in a dual PharmD/PhD program at the University of Utah. For my dissertation in the department of Pharmacology and Toxicology I studied the molecular mechanisms of capsaicin toxicity in the lung. At the same time I interned as a PIP at the Utah Poison Control Center (UPCC), so early on I was able to explore both laboratory and clinical toxicology. I earned my PharmD in 2008 and worked part time as a SPI until my PhD was complete in 2010. A week later I started training as the first fellow of Clinical and Applied Toxicology at UPCC. My fellowship was excellent and I had a great time sharing an office with Brad Dahl. Upon the completion of my fellowship in 2012 I worked as a CSPI before taking a position as a clinical pharmacist with the University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics in early 2014. My favorite toxicology cases involve natural toxins, animal envenomations and antidotes. My husband Eric and I welcomed a little son, William, this past May so I am also grateful to have learned about child proofing. In my spare time I enjoy gardening, baking, birdwatching, reading, and exploring all of the natural beauty that Utah has to offer. I am excited about ABAT and look forward to working with all of you.



### ***Sheila Goertmoeller***

I was born and raised in India. I moved to the US when I was 14. I interviewed at the Cincinnati Drug and Poison Information Center at the tender age of 19 the summer before I started pharmacy school. I took my CSPI exam in 1998 and have been a CSPI since.

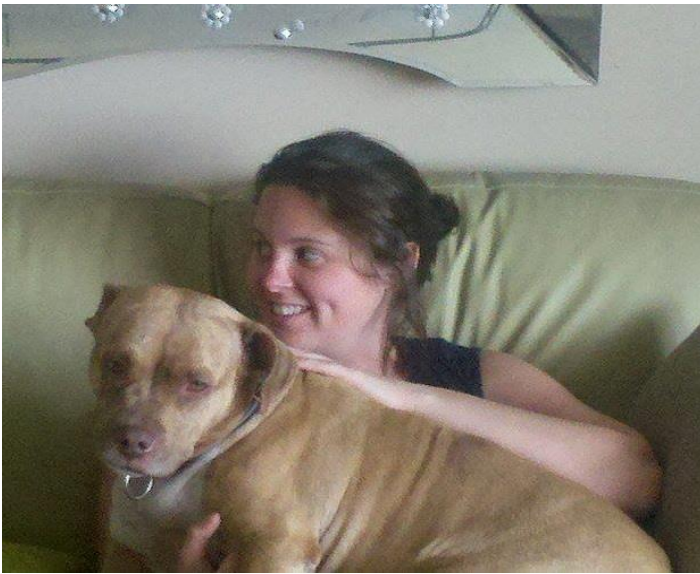
I graduated with a BS in Pharmacy in 1998 and married the cutest guy in my pharmacy class. We built our first home in 1999 and have 2 lovely children- Maya (13yo) & Kyle (8yo).

I have a passion for drug abuse prevention and got my international certification as a (drug abuse) prevention specialist from the Chemical dependency board and I am also certified in nicotine cessation. I was involved in the SPI committee for a 4 year term, with most of my focus on the FYI newsletter as chair.

I decided to go back to school and get my non-traditional PharmD and graduated with a 4.0 GPA in 2012 from Shenandoah University. The next logical step was to get my ABAT. I kept my expectations low but my resolve high in my preparations for the ABAT. I have done a lot of studying in my life but I don't think I have studied as much as I have last year to get ready for this exam. I was thrilled when I got my ABAT letter.

I love toxicology- I think it is fascinating and love everything about it. It has all I have ever known in my adult career and I don't see myself doing anything else. I love teaching it to SPIs, and residents that shadow our center. I also author/edit 2 local toxicology related newsletters and write for our Cincinnati Children's Hospital blog on various tox topics.

I have a ton of interests outside of work- when I am not chauffeuring my 2 busy kiddos I'm either running, reading, volunteering at my kids school, scrapbooking, or watching the National Geographic channel with my son.



**Nicole Reid**

My story starts in Buffalo, NY where I earned my B.A. in Geography and my Masters in Education. In 2001, I fled the land of cold and snow and moved to Washington D.C. where I found work as a Research Analyst for a fair housing non-profit organization. In 2004, I was hired by AAPCC as a Research Analyst where I had my first introduction to the world of toxicology and poison control. After working there for about 1 year, I decided to attend the School of Nursing at George Mason University and became a Registered Nurse. I began working for the National Capital Poison Center first as a SPI in 2007 and then a CSPI in 2008. Since 2008, I have continued answering the phones as a CSPI as well as taking on the role of Clinical Operations Coordinator. I have been involved in teaching toxicology to medical residents and pharmacy students, as well as providing continuing education in toxicology to the medical professionals in the Washington, D.C. region. I also work with AHLS to provide advanced hazmat life support courses to first responders. In the community, I work closely with members of the D.C. Health Information System to develop disaster management plans for a variety of emergency preparedness scenarios. Currently I play an integral role in the development and maintenance of WebPoisonControl.org algorithms run by the National Capital Poison Center. My interests in toxicology include plants and mushrooms, radiation, and environmental and occupational toxicology.

My personal interests are numerous and varied. I am a beekeeper and am a first year intern at the Sustainable Honeybee Program in Purcellville, VA where we are trying to “build a better bee”, one that is well suited to the climate in Northern Virginia. I am also a ballroom dancer and specialize in Tango, Foxtrot, Hustle and Rumba. I support our local Roller Derby teams, since my schedule and my body no longer allow me to participate in the bouts. I also avidly support and fundraise for a number of causes including pit bull dog rescue groups, and breast and ovarian cancer research organizations.

# Want to be a Fellow of AACT?

Christine Stork, PharmD, DABAT, FAACT

For those of you active in the Academy, now is the time to begin the application for consideration of becoming a Fellow of the AACT. If you have any questions about the process or if you have the qualifications for Fellowship Status, please contact Christine Stork, Pharm.D. at [storkc@upstate.edu](mailto:storkc@upstate.edu). Applications are being accepted until 6/1/15. For those of you that are new to the Academy or want to become more involved, please send an email to [admin@clintox.org](mailto:admin@clintox.org).

For those new to the Academy or those wanting to be more active: Make sure you have clicked the box about wanting to be more active in the academy. If you would like some other ideas, please contact Christine Stork, Pharm.D. at [storkc@upstate.edu](mailto:storkc@upstate.edu).