

CROSS-INDUSTRY Organizations

An introduction to the Aerosol Society



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On behalf of the Aerosol Society

Introduction

The Aerosol Society was formed in 1986 by a group of enthusiastic aerosol scientists who sought to provide a forum in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland for the discussion of various aspects of aerosol research. The society is a not-for-profit organization which is run by a committee of volunteers from across related fields of industry and academia. The society aims to promote all scientific branches of aerosol research and, by means of meetings and publications, the spread of information on an interdisciplinary basis. The Aerosol Society also seeks to encourage investment in aerosol research and international cooperation. Finally, the society seeks to encourage new members of the aerosol community by providing training and supporting student activities through a variety of awards.

Each year, the Aerosol Society arranges a series of meetings and events. These include the Annual Conference, which extends over several days and covers a wide range of topics, providing a unique opportunity for workers in different disciplines to meet and discuss their work. Other events include more specialized one-day meetings and topics such as particle shape analysis, electrostatic charge and the role of aerosols in veterinary medicine. Drug Delivery to the Lungs has evolved out of these one-day meet-

ings into a highly successful, annual conference attracting more than 450 attendees from the global respiratory science community.

Drug Delivery to the Lungs

Drug Delivery to the Lungs (DDL) is dedicated to pulmonary and nasal drug delivery. Established in 1989, by a sub-committee of the Aerosol Society, DDL's mission is to provide a forum for all involved in the advancement of respiratory science to come together, hear about recent developments in the field of inhalation therapy and provide a friendly and informal environment for networking and further discussions. The conference attracts a broad range of attendees including scientists, academics, clinicians, regulatory and industry specialists involved in developing medicines for inhalation. In addition, DDL aims to be affordable for attendees at all levels in the industry, promoting the attendance of students and new researchers and encouraging the submission of posters and short podium presentations. This gives them the opportunity to publish their work and discuss it with those more experienced in the field.

DDL is organized by a committee of volunteers drawn from a variety of clinical, academic and industrial backgrounds. Each year, the committee seeks to devise an interesting, high quality and varied program, through a

series of themed sessions. The sessions are filled, through a combination of invited and submitted lectures, by experts in the field of inhalation and students working to provide advancements to respiratory science.

In addition to the main program, the conference attracts a diverse and extensive selection of posters. In 2010, DDL introduced a special drinks and networking session set around the posters. This gave the authors greater opportunity to present their research and enabled further discussion about the implications of their findings on inhalation science. At the event, prizes were awarded by the organizing committee for the Best Academic Poster and the Best Industry Poster.

As a non-commercial event, each year any surplus funds from DDL are used to support the advancement of inhalation science, including the funding of studentships, training events, additional meetings and travel bursaries.

As part of the drive to encourage young researchers, DDL has established the Pat Burnell New Investigator Award. Named after the late Pat Burnell (one of the driving forces behind the start up of the DDL conference), this award provides an opportunity for each finalist to present a short podium talk and is awarded to the best research from a junior researcher.

Education and Sponsorship Opportunities through the Aerosol Society

The Aerosol Society promotes aerosol science by organizing conferences, educational training and student awards. The following Student Awards are available:

The C.N. Davies Award

The Aerosol Society intends to award a scholarship or scholarships annually to a new graduate undertaking a course of study leading to a doctorate at a United Kingdom or Irish university.

The Whytlaw-Gray Studentship

The Aerosol Society intends to award a studentship to allow the recipient university department to provide financial support to a new graduate undertaking a course of study leading to a doctorate at a United Kingdom or Irish university.

Student Travel Awards

Awards in the form of bursaries of agreed specified amounts are available to student members of the Aerosol Society to attend the overseas conferences (eligibility criteria apply).

It is hoped these scholarships will encourage a young science graduate to undertake postgraduate training in the field of aerosol science, and at the same time, gain experience in the presentation of work to a scientific audience.

The 2011 conference

DDL 22 will be held from December 7-9, 2011 at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. This year's themes are:

- Disease states beyond asthma and COPD
- Choosing your device – the right tool for the right job

- Getting to know the respiratory tract
- Physical and physico-chemical properties of an inhaled drug – what should they be?

The conference will open with keynote speaker Professor Peter J. Barnes from Imperial College, London who will be discussing New

Drugs and Targets in COPD. “What on Earth!” talks will once again be dotted throughout the program, showcasing bizarre and quirky science relevant to inhalation therapy.

For further information on the Aerosol Society or its awards, please visit <http://aerosol-soc.org.uk>.
