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**From:** LEVINE, STEVEN L [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 5/28/2015 3:55:30 PM  
**To:** MARTINO-CATT, SUSAN J [Redacted]; ZHANG, BEI  
[Redacted] REYNOLDS, TRACEY L [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: SETAC symposium invitation

Thanks for supporting attendance to this meeting! Here is an abstract I drafted and will put through eMCF.

Comments are appreciated.

**Mechanisms that Ensure the Reliability and Credibility of Science and Scientists in the Crop Biotechnology and Crop Protection Industries.**

In recent years, the reliability and credibility of human and environmental safety studies conducted or funded by industry have been questioned, suggesting that industry research is fundamentally conflicted and hence unreliable. However, it is unscientific and biased to discount a study based solely on which investigator or institution conducted or funded it. The agricultural chemical and biotechnology industry takes very seriously its responsibility to protect people and the environment throughout the entire life cycle of its products. Prior to the registration of a pesticide, industry extensively researches, develops, tests and assesses its products to ensure compliance with governmental requirements and to implement product stewardship commitments. There are a variety of practices and standards that ensure studies performed or funded by industry are identified as such, meet high scientific standards, and are not suppressed when their findings are adverse to a company's interests. The more a given study follows these practices and standards, the more confidence one can place in it. In addition, as members of professional associations like SETAC, industry scientists adhere to professional commitments to act in accordance with the codes of ethics of their profession. This presentation will describe the steps industry follows to ensure the reliability and credibility of human and environmental safety testing used to support product registrations.

**From:** MARTINO-CATT, SUSAN J [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 28, 2015 7:24 AM  
**To:** ZHANG, BEI [Redacted]; REYNOLDS, TRACEY L [Redacted] LEVINE, STEVEN L [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: SETAC symposium invitation

Agree

**From:** ZHANG, BEI [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 27, 2015 9:18 PM  
**To:** REYNOLDS, TRACEY L [Redacted]; LEVINE, STEVEN L [Redacted]  
**Cc:** MARTINO-CATT, SUSAN J [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: SETAC symposium invitation

Thanks Steve for the explanation. I would support.

**From:** REYNOLDS, TRACEY L [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 27, 2015 5:01 PM  
**To:** LEVINE, STEVEN L [Redacted]  
**Cc:** ZHANG, BEI [Redacted]; MARTINO-CATT, SUSAN J [Redacted]  
**Subject:** Re: SETAC symposium invitation

I see no issues with attending

Sent from my iPhone

On May 27, 2015, at 4:11 PM, LEVINE, STEVEN L [Redacted] wrote:

Bei,

Susan did a really nice job this morning communicating to the extended reg sci leadership team the importance of our scientists to engage in critical conversations that support the testing and assessment we perform with a range of stakeholders. The SETAC meeting is the most important environmental toxicology meeting in the world. It is critical, for a number of reasons, that we have at least one person in attendance. First, this is the most important forum to engage academic "collaborators". These are the ambassadors that defend our products and our science (e.g., Keith Solomon, John Giesy, John Rodgers, etc). Second, there are a number of presentations on our products that we need to see and engage the researchers for product defense. It is our only opportunity to steer these researchers in the right direction and be prepared when the paper is published. Third, this is a critical opportunity to informally meet with regulators and industry colleagues and have constructive conversations on a range of topics.

We have a long history of supporting SETAC and are corporate sponsors. I am proud to say to that one of the six founding members of the society led our corporate environmental toxicology group from the 1970s into the 1990s. SETAC was established to equal represent academia, industry and government. Every session must have equal representation from each sector. These three sectors work well together in this society to have a seat at the table and develop strong science based approaches for environmental assessment. Our group has participated in many of these

successful efforts over the years that have shaped environmental policy, testing and assessment globally. In the session I am invited to present in the key academic will be Glen van der Kraak and the key individual from academia will be Tom Steeger who is the most respected senior scientist in EFED. These are the relationships we need to continue and cultivate. In addition, I will be meeting with international scientists at the meeting to continue to develop our global glyphosate network. This is an important and business critical goal to defend our glyphosate portfolio. In addition, there will be important sessions in key areas such as endangered species, exposure assessment including spray drift, pollinators and many other important topics we need to stay on top of.

This was a lot of information but outlines the importance of having a modest Monsanto representation at SETAC this November.

Thanks,

Steve

**From:** ZHANG, BEI [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 26, 2015 2:18 PM  
**To:** LEVINE, STEVEN L [Redacted]; MARTINO-CATT, SUSAN J [Redacted]; REYNOLDS, TRACEY L [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: SETAC symposium invitation

Steve,

Sorry for my late response. I definitely see the importance for this meeting. However due to current practice on travel is for business critical only. Could you please help us to understand the business impact if you could not travel for this meeting. Thanks.

Bei

**From:** LEVINE, STEVEN L [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2015 3:06 PM  
**To:** ZHANG, BEI [Redacted]; MARTINO-CATT, SUSAN J [Redacted]; REYNOLDS, TRACEY L [Redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: SETAC symposium invitation

Bei, Susan and Tracey,

I have been invited to present at the North America Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry meeting in what will likely turnout to be one of the most important and well attended sessions at the meeting. The session is titled: "Biases and Conflicts of Interest in Ecotoxicology: Perspectives From Academia, Government and Industry". I am not thrilled about the title of the session but this would be an opportunity to present necessary counterpoint by a credible industry scientist. This session is an outcome of a very provocative presentation by an academic two years ago. I have belonged to this society for 25 years, have held Society leadership positions and feel my messages would be credible to the majority of attendees. I imagine there will be 2 or 3 industry speakers total in the session that must be balanced across academia, government and industry. This is a topic I am passionate about, have put a lot of thought into over the years and would like us to consider submitting an abstract. I was hoping to attend this meeting since this is the biggest Ecotox meeting globally and we need to have attendance from our team. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend last year because of an EPA meeting but Peter Jensen gave my invited talk which culminated into a publication on DvSnf7 and honeybees that received it full acceptance from the society journal on Monday.

Tina Lehman the symposia chair works at Dow, previously worked for USGS, and is a good person to Chair this session. I imagine there could be an opportunity to author a short paper based on the presentation addressing the reliability of industry data and credibility of industry scientists. If you support this I will prepare an abstract for review.

Thanks,

Steve

**From:** Lehman, Christine (CM) [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2015 11:23 AM  
**To:** LEVINE, STEVEN L [Redacted]  
**Subject:** SETAC symposium invitation

Hi Steve,

I hope this finds you well!

I am chairing a special symposium at the SETAC meeting this fall entitled "Biases and Conflicts of Interest in Ecotoxicology: Perspectives From Academia, Government and Industry" and am writing to invite you to submit a

platform presentation. Because of your role within industry I believe you can offer a balanced perspective that would benefit this symposium.

If you're interested I will forward more information about the meeting. Briefly, it is in Salt Lake City this year and runs from 1-5 November and deadline for abstract submission is June 10.

The description of this symposium is as follows:

This 'debate' will be a balanced, tripartite discussion of approaches to assessing environmental fate and toxicity in various sectors of employment. Representatives from academia, government, and industry will present their backgrounds and current job roles/approaches to environmental fate and toxicity data collection and assessment with specific attention to the issues of biases and conflicts of interest (both perceived and real). Presenters will discuss how biases and conflicts of interest are minimized, as well as how they are regarded by others. Other topics of discussion will include general focus areas of research and testing in these various sectors, diverse approaches taken to obtain funding for research, as well as obstacles and enticements to publishing research results. Finally, the advantages to collaborating on scientific endeavors across various sectors to promote the best science will be discussed and areas for improved working relations will be brainstormed. Time will be made available for audience participation and questions.

I'm hoping you will accept this invitation! If you decide to be a part of the symposium please submit your abstract in this session via <http://meetings.setac.org> for the SETAC NA meeting 2015.

Also, I apologize for the late date of this invitation. Procuring travel approval can be challenging, I imagine, in any of these three branches.

Unfortunately, I'm on travel until 27 May so if you have questions or concerns I won't be able to respond until I return. However, I will make my response a priority on that day.

Kind regards,

Tina

*Christine Lehman, Ph.D.*

Environmental Toxicologist/

Product Sustainability Consultant

Toxicology & Environmental Research and Consulting

<image001.jpg> The Dow Chemical Company

**Redacted**