

European Society for Biomaterials-YSF (ESB-YSF) Board Elections Application Form

Tom Kamperman



Name: Dr. Tom Kamperman

Nationality: Dutch (The Netherlands)

Date of birth: 13 February 1988

Current position (position, affiliation):

- **Post-doctoral researcher**, Department of Developmental BioEngineering, Faculty of Science and Technology, Technical Medical Centre, University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands
- **Chief Technology Officer & co-founder**, IamFluidics B.V., Enschede, The Netherlands

Research interests (5 keywords): microfluidics; microencapsulation; hydrogels; tissue engineering; stem cells

Position applied for (please rank your preferences from 1 (most preferred position) to 6 (less preferred position)):

6	YSF Spokesperson
6	YSF communication and dissemination officer
1	YSF industrial liaison officer
6	YSF educational officer
6	YSF secretary
6	YSF national chapters liaison officer

Past ESB conferences attended:

- 2018
- 2019
- 2021



ESB-YSF Board Elections - 2022

Candidate summary (max 1 page)

Motivation

I am an entrepreneurial biomedical engineer with a strong background in microfluidics, material engineering, and microencapsulation. I have vast experience in leveraging droplet microfluidics and hydrogel technology for (single) cell encapsulation and 3D (stem) cell culture. Furthermore, I have an interdisciplinary focus and an outspoken interest in pioneering and upscaling micromanufacturing and biofabrication processes.

After having been representative of the ESB-YSF Dutch local chapter since 2018, given four oral presentations at ESB including a business pitch, and received the Julia Polak doctoral award, I feel it is time for a next step. I would be very honoured and excited to join the ESB-YSF board as industrial liaison officer. That position naturally matches my dual academic/industry affiliation: I am post-doctoral researcher at the University of Twente as well as Chief Technology Officer of my university spin-off company IamFluidics BV. As industrial liaison officer, I could naturally combine my passion, experience, and network to inspire and educate the next generation of biomaterial researchers aiming to work on industrial translational research or setting up their own spin-off company.

Possible Achievements

Clinical translation and industrialization of biomaterial research is a key topic of the ESB. I know from experience that combining research with entrepreneurship can be extremely motivating and interesting. It also provides unique opportunities in terms of gaining experience in storytelling, obtaining funding, as well as tutoring and supervision. All these skills are translational and will aid any young researcher in his/her career.

Therefore, it is my vision to continue and further develop the academic-industrial axis that is already present within the ESB. Specifically, I would like to establish contacts between ESB-YSF and knowledge transfer offices that are present within most EU universities and which aim to connect (young) researchers to business developers, patent attorneys, and investors. Furthermore, I aim to connect the ESB-YSF community to university spin-off companies, as these are often swiftly growing and highly energetic organizations that are continuously looking for academically trained young scientists. I believe that actively connecting those networks will contribute to the career orientation and successful job application of young scientists.

Communication skills

I initiated, secured, and currently lead two large European academic/industrial consortia grants (EFRO: €600k and €1M), a.o., on tissue engineering. To obtain first-hand experience with technology valorisation, I co-founded university spin-off company IamFluidics BV, which aims to commercialize and industrialize IAMF technology co-invented by me. As IamFluidics' technical director, I independently setup two R&D laboratories, directly manage ten PhD and post-doc-level researchers, and co-led two venture capital investment rounds (€1M and €2.5M). As recognition for these valorisation activities, I was elected 'European Innovator Under 35' by peer-reviewed MIT Technology Review (2019). To disseminate and popularize science, I gave workshops about microfluidic-based cell encapsulation, presented for patient support groups (Reumafonds, NL), and gave interviews for Dutch national radio (BNR and Radio 1, 2018), newspapers (FD and Tubantia, 2019), and science magazines (KIJK, 2019). Two communicative examples are video interviews about my work at the University of Twente (https://youtu.be/7fwcS2v1_Hg) and IamFluidics BV (<https://youtu.be/1jEUQa1hsFQ>).

My spoken languages are Dutch (mother tongue), English (professional), and German (beginner).

Any other ideas/remarks

N.a.