



ESB Newsletter October 1, 2020

WBC2020 | 2021 ESB Scientific Awards | 2021 Biomaterials Science Lectureship Award

Dear members of the European Society for Biomaterials,

I hope this message finds you well while we are still struggling with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. These are unprecedented times that require a lot of flexibility and even more hard work from our students and ourselves. We, nevertheless, hope that after this crisis we will be able to share our newest results with each other and meet old friends.

11th World Biomaterials Congress

In the meantime, the preparations for the 11th World Biomaterials Congress, which will now take place wholly online from the 11th to 15th December 2020 are in full swing. The WBC 2020 Executive Committee, Liz Tanner, Lucy Di Silvio and Nicholas Dunne, are grateful to announce the majority of delegates who had registered for the physical version of the Congress have decided to auto-enrol as delegates for the virtual equivalent. This has resulted in a significant reduction in Congress registration fees. In spite of the challenges presented by COVID-19, we are excited to communicate that the Congress maintains an exceptional level of excellence, internationalisation and diversity in terms of scientific programme and few changes from the physical congress. At a glance, the Congress, will have:

- Five plenary speakers
- 48 special symposium sessions which include 30 min keynote presentations
- 30 general scientific sessions
- 8 pre-congress educational workshops
- 9 in-congress workshops
- 1,800 e-posters

In parallel, recently, the Online Biomaterials Community has been launched, which is focused on bringing together the biomaterials scientific community from around the globe. The Online platform is designed to provide a comprehensive digital space where all WBC registrants and Biomaterials specialists can come together in online discussion forum to share, learn and engage with each other. The WBC online community will also have the opportunity to join online special interest groups and gain access to a valued pool of e-resources. In addition, to hot research news and opinions, the latest product development and announcement of future events of the different International Biomaterials Societies are available on the platform. You do not need to register for WBC2020 in order to avail of some of the facilities available on the Online Biomaterials Community.

Additionally, online WBC registrants will be able to view and participate in a schedule of online interactive webinars, society symposia, sponsored satellite webinars and international guest lectures to take place from the start of October to the Congress. It is the organizers' ambition that registrants will enjoy full access to the Online Biomaterials Community for an extended period beyond the Congress as part of the registration fees.

So, please visit the Congress website for the latest news and developments about the virtual meeting and the Online Biomaterials Community to communicate, learn and connect with the broader biomaterials scientific community.

Call for nominations for the ESB Awards

We continue our tradition to recognize the achievements of the colleagues in the field of biomaterials by offering our prestigious awards. This year, the call for nominations will open on the 1st of October 2020 and will remain open until the 30th of November 2020.

Candidates can be nominated for the following awards:

George Winter Award: established to recognize, encourage and stimulate outstanding research contributions to the field of biomaterials. The nominee must have contributed significantly to the knowledge in the field of biomaterials through basic, experimental and/or clinical research.

Jean Leray Award: established to recognize, encourage and stimulate outstanding research contributions to the field of biomaterials by early-career scientists. The nominee, not older than 40 years of age and with no more than eight years of post-doctoral experience at the close of nomination (please visit the website for more details on the eligibility criteria that have been updated), must have contributed significantly to the knowledge in the field of biomaterials through basic, experimental and/or clinical research.

International Award: established as a recognition of scientists who have generally spent their career outside Europe, who have been internationally recognized, have a high scientific profile, and have made major contributions to the field of biomaterials. Strong evidence of collaborations with members of our scientific community in Europe throughout their career is expected.

Klaas de Groot Award: established as a prestigious recognition of scientists who have shown a distinct ability to provide excellent mentorship and guidance to young researchers, helping them to establish their own independent career. We look for colleagues who have nurtured young talent, and who have selflessly invested in this talent, creating a next generation biomaterials scientists in Europe.

For further information about the awards and the process of nomination, please visit our website: <http://www.esbiomaterials.eu/Cms/Content/7>.

In addition to the above scientific achievement awards nominations, application for the **Julia Polak European Doctoral Awards and the Raquel LeGeros Awards** can also be submitted before the 31st of January 2021 (<http://www.esbiomaterials.eu/cms/content/11>).

The ESB awards will be presented during the next year's annual ESB conference to be held in **Porto, Portugal from the 5th to 9th September 2021**.

Call for nominations for the 2021 Biomaterials Science Lectureship Award

Biomaterials Science, the official journal of the ESB has announced the call form nominations for the 2021 Biomaterials Science Lectureship Award. This annual award was established in 2014 to honour an early-stage career scientist who has made a significant contribution to the biomaterials field. The recipient of the award will be asked to present a lecture at our next year's annual ESB conference in Porto, where they will also be presented with the award. The *Biomaterials Science* Editorial Office will provide £1000 financial support to the recipient for travel and accommodation costs. The recipient will also be asked to contribute a research article to the journal and will have their work showcased free of charge on the front cover of the issue in which their article is published. The article would be subject to the normal peer review standards of the journal. More information can be found on the Biomaterials Science [blog](#) and [Twitter](#).

Kind regards,



*Pamela Habibovic, President
(on behalf of the ESB Council)*