



Canadian Biomaterials Society
Soci t  Canadienne des Biomat riaux

Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2014



Letter from the President

Dear Colleagues:

Happy New Year!

The Board of Directors, Secretary and Treasurer have been active this New Year on several critical tasks associated with the conference in Halifax (mark your calendars!) as well as finalizing the proposed changes to the Bylaws of the Society.

Over the past few weeks several members of the Board, and the website master, have been frantically setting up the on-line abstract submission process. The efforts of several Board members, especially, Drs. Hoare, Filiaggi and Catelas in setting this up, checking it, tweaking it, and checking it again are greatly appreciated. It is hoped that this functionality will ease the process of abstract collection and evaluation for years to come.

Moreover, we are all in the process of making final revisions to the Bylaws for the Society. As some of you might remember, our not-for-profit status is contingent upon transforming the current bylaws into a standardized form before October 2014. It was decided that due to the fact the last time the bylaws were updated was in 2001, it was a good time to review and update them again. With the help of the entire Board of Directors, especially Drs. Unsworth, Labow, Filiaggi, Catelas and Uludag we are almost ready to send them to the membership for comments. You all should expect to see them and review them prior to the Annual General Meeting held at Halifax, where we

will vote upon these changes. This is a critical event, for these changes have to be accepted at this time so we can meet the governmental deadline of Oct, 2014 and retain our not-for-profit status.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, may you all have a wonderful 2014.

See you in Halifax,
Larry

Renew your CBS Membership!

It's that time of the year when you need to renew your membership. The whole process can be completed online by following this link:

<http://www.biomaterials.ca/#!/membership/join>

31st Annual Meeting of the Canadian Biomaterials Society in Halifax June 4th through 7th



Abstract Submission is NOW OPEN! Abstracts may be submitted and edited up to the deadline of **February 21, 2014**.

Submission website:

<http://biomaterials.ca/#!/submit-abstract>

Plan to join us in Halifax from June 4th to June 7th for the 31st Annual Meeting of the Canadian Biomaterials Society. “*Bridging the Gap*” – *From Discovery to Innovation* will provide a forum for sharing the latest findings in biomaterials research, device development and novel clinical applications. There will be opportunities for both formal and informal interactions amongst trainees, professors, clinicians and industrial partners from across Canada. Take advantage of our new small group Lunch & Learn sessions, or make new connections at the speed-networking event. The scientific program will highlight notable international experts spanning the biomaterials spectrum and related fields, with a focus on realizing evidence-based solutions to biomedical problems. You can get a flavour of what to expect by viewing the [preliminary Program-at-a-Glance](#).

And don't miss out on the CBS banquet, taking place at historic Pier 21, the gateway to Canada. While here, enjoy our famous East Coast hospitality, and make sure you leave some time to explore our treasures!

Mark J Filiaggi
Dalhousie University
Conference Chair

Student Chapter Updates taken from their Annual Reports

Update from the Alberta Chapter

Networking events are central to CBS-AB as these facilitate the execution of our mission of increasing biomaterials awareness. Our club kicked off the 2013 academic year with a BBQ to advertise and increase student participation within our club. In the previous year, events were limited to several



Alberta Chapter Workshop

talks given by experts to promote knowledge translation among the academic community. Topics presented included: Biomaterials Introduction, Super Medicines, Silver Nanotechnology, and Gene Therapeutics. Academic talks are planned for the upcoming year in addition to an industrial mixer. CBS-AB anticipates that the interaction between the industrial and student bodies will bridge the gap between academia and industry and help foster growth of Alberta's emerging biotechnology sector. The expanded number and types of events should increase student interest and club enrolment.

Update from the Montreal Chapter

Success was made in establishing collaborations with McGill University, École Polytechnique, Université de Montréal, École Technologie Supérieure, Concorida University among other institutions where collaborations are underway.



Montreal Chapter 2nd Event at McGill University

The mandate set forth was enforced and strengthened by the ability to hold key events at both École Polytechnique and McGill University. This included the assembly of graduate students, professors and other researchers to collaborate, communicate and build networks among one another in order to disseminate knowledge gained in the field of biomaterials and translate it to application and industry. At École Polytechnique, an event was held where the keynote speaker Dr. Sophie Lerouge gave an informative overview of Biomaterials. The meet-and-greet atmosphere fostered not only the dissemination of knowledge, but allowed peer networks to be formed.

The second event held at McGill University, with the support of funding from the CBS, showcased the work of 2 postdoctoral fellows, Dr. Amir Miri and Dr. Eric Bergeron, who not only gave an overview of their work but provided insights into their research paths.

Update from the British Columbia Chapter

The CBS British Columbia Student Chapter was the first of its kind in British Columbia and in the west coast of Canada. Connected with three major universities, University of British Columbia (UBC), Simon Fraser

University (SFU) and the University of Victoria (UVic), our primary goal is to assemble graduate students, professors and other researchers to collaborate, communicate and build networks among one another in order to disseminate knowledge gained in the field of biomaterials and translate it to the marketplace.



3rd Student-Based Biomaterials Symposium (Dec 4th, 2013, UBC)

The BC student chapter is now in its third year, thanks to the dedicated team and ongoing support of the CBS. During our third year of activity, the chapter has held several biomaterials related workshops, seminars and networking events. We started our events by having the Student-Based Biomedical Engineering Workshop (July 5th) speakers from graduate students and faculty members from the University of Victoria. This workshop, which was a combination of scientific lectures and lab tours, was shared with UBC students via video conferencing. We also had a summer BBQ at Jerico beach in association with students from the Experimental Medicine program at UBC, Interdisciplinary Oncology Program, and GrasPods (the British Columbia Cancer Agency Graduate Student and Post Doctoral Fellow Society.).



Guest Speakers and Organizers of the 3rd Biomaterials Symposium at UBC

Finally we organized the 3rd Student-Based Biomaterials Symposium (Dec 4th 2013, UBC) with guest speakers from graduate students and faculty members of UBC and UVic. Instron and UBC Graduate Student Society (GSS) financially supported this event which was followed by a poster session. We also organized a product show for Instron during the poster session. These events helped to foster connections between students from UBC, SFU and UVic, and inspired multidisciplinary communications and collaborations within the network. The executive team is working toward expanding the chapter, enhancing the interactions between students and faculty members from different research groups and facilitating the interactions between industry and academia. Building on a successful experience, we aim to continue our mission in the future, while growing into an organization with more impact that can benefit as many students as possible. In order to achieve these goals, we intended to (1) execute half- or full-day trainee-workshop events for students in the biomaterials field; (2) host a monthly meet-up to discuss research areas, and (3) organize several social events including a summer BBQ and networking soiree to facilitate students' connection with industry and peers in different fields of biomaterials engineering.

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Please contact willerth@uvic.ca if you want to contribute to our Spring 2014 CBS Newsletter.



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