



CANADIAN BIOMATERIALS SOCIETY
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DES BIOMATÉRIAUX

BI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER: Fall 2025

Letter from the President

Dear CBS members,

I hope everyone has enjoyed a productive and inspiring fall semester.

It was wonderful to see so many of you in Kingston this past spring for CBS2025. The conference brought together more than 150 attendees from across Canada and showcased outstanding biomaterials research from our community. Congratulations to all presenters for their excellent contributions, and to this year's award recipients, who are recognized in this newsletter. A sincere thank-you as well to all the volunteers and sponsors whose efforts helped make CBS2025 such a success.



Planning is well underway for our 2026 annual meeting, which will be a joint conference of the CBS, the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences (CSPS), and the Canadian Chapter of the Controlled Release Society (CC-CRS). Prof. Jay Kizhakkedathu and the organizing committee have been working diligently to develop what promises to be an exceptional event, with new opportunities for members to share their research, build collaborations, and strengthen connections across our societies. I look forward to seeing many of you there in June.

I am also pleased to share that work has begun on the development of a new CBS website. My sincere thanks go to Jean-Philippe St-Pierre, Marc-André Fortin, and all members of the website committee for their leadership in advancing this important initiative.

This year, we welcome several new members to the CBS Board of Directors, whose profiles you will find later in this newsletter, as well as Prof. Marc-André Fortin in his new role as President-Elect and Chair of the 2027 CBS Annual Meeting in Québec City. I would also like to express my appreciation to the board members who completed their terms this past June—Jean-Philippe St-Pierre, Simon Matoori, and Past-President Marta Cerruti. It has been a pleasure working with you, and I am grateful for your dedicated service to the Society. I also extend my thanks to Patricia Comeau and Emilio Alarcón for their continued service as Secretary and Treasurer.

Please take a few moments to explore this newsletter. Inside, you will find updates from our student chapters, a CBS Visiting Scholar report, information on upcoming trainee awards, and details about the 2026 CBS/CSPS/CC-CRS meeting in Vancouver.

Thank you for your continued engagement with the Canadian Biomaterials Society. As always, I encourage you to stay connected and to reach out to me or any member of the CBS Board throughout the year.

Warm regards,

Lindsay Fitzpatrick

President, Canadian Biomaterials Society

Letter from the President Elect



C'est avec honneur et enthousiasme que j'ai accepté la présidence de la CBS pour l'année 2026-2027. Mon laboratoire de Biomatériaux pour l'Imagerie Médicale (BIM) de l'Université Laval a toujours bénéficié de l'incroyable réseau scientifique et professionnel que représente la CBS. C'est donc avec un immense plaisir que je contribuerai au développement et à la promotion du secteur des biomatériaux au Canada. Mes deux principaux projets seront la refonte du site web (déjà en cours) ainsi que l'organisation de la conférence annuelle de la CBS 2027, qui se tiendra à Québec.

It is with honor and enthusiasm that I have accepted the presidency of CBS for the year 2026-2027. My Laboratory of Biomaterials for Medical Imaging (BIM) at Université Laval has always benefited from the remarkable scientific and professional network that CBS represents. I am therefore delighted to contribute to the development and promotion of the biomaterials sector in Canada. My two main projects will be the redesign of the website (already underway) and the organization of the CBS 2027 Annual Conference, which will be held in Québec City.

Marc-André Fortin

President Elect, Canadian Biomaterials Society

Introducing the New Board Members

Dr. Locke Davenport Huyer is an Assistant Professor at Dalhousie University with appointments in Biomaterials & Applied Oral Sciences, Biomedical Engineering, and Microbiology & Immunology, and is an Affiliate Scientist with Nova Scotia Health and the IWK Health Centre. He received his PhD from the University of Toronto and completed postdoctoral training at Johns Hopkins University. His research program focuses on immunomodulatory biomaterials, particularly chronic inflammation associated with medical device implants, and the development of degradable polymer systems that direct host immune responses. His group integrates polymer design, mechanistic immunology, and translational preclinical models to inform therapeutic strategies grounded in clinical pathology. As a Senior Board Member, he aims to expand student chapter engagement, strengthen clinician involvement in CBS activities, and build connections with related Canadian scientific and clinical societies to foster interdisciplinary collaboration.



**Dr. Locke
Davenport Huyer**
Senior Board Member



**Dr. Leila
Mostaçõ-Guidolin**
Senior Board Member

Dr. Leila Mostaçõ-Guidolin is an Associate Professor in Systems and Computer Engineering at Carleton University and a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Imaging and Biomaterials Characterization. She received her PhD in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Manitoba in 2015 and completed her postdoctoral training at the University of British Columbia / Heart Lung Innovation (HLI) Centre. She leads the Tissue Engineering & Applied Materials (TEAM) Hub, an interdisciplinary platform spanning Carleton, uOttawa, OHRI, OHI, and NRC. Her research integrates label-free imaging, machine learning, and engineered tissue models to investigate extracellular matrix remodeling in chronic respiratory diseases such as asthma and COPD. She has secured significant tri-council and CFI funding and is dedicated to training the next generation of multidisciplinary HQP across engineering, biology, physics, and biochemistry. She is also active nationally through initiatives such as Science Meets Parliament and federal public-health innovation programs. Her broader vision is to strengthen Canada's biomaterials and

regenerative-medicine ecosystem by fostering interdisciplinary collaborations, enhancing training opportunities, and advancing the development of next-generation imaging-enabled biomaterials and engineered tissue platforms.

Dr. Chris Moraes is an Associate Professor at the School of Biomedical Engineering at the University of British Columbia, and at the International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries in the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute. He trained in nanoengineering (B.A.Sc) and mechanical / biomedical engineering (PhD) at the University of Toronto, before holding NSERC / Howard Alper Banting Postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Michigan's Biointerfaces Institute, and a Canada Research Chair in Advanced Cellular Microenvironments at McGill University from 2015-2025. His research and technical expertise lie at the interface between microfabricated cell culture systems, biomaterials design, advanced imaging technologies, and computational modelling; and he is particularly curious about the role microenvironmental biomechanical forces play in driving disease and development. Recent honours include the McGill Principal's Prizes for both Outstanding Emerging Researcher, and for Excellence in Teaching. Outside of research, Chris recently served as the McGill Ombudsperson for Students, and Program Director for Shad Canada's summer enrichment program at various campuses across the country.



Dr. Chris Moraes
Senior Board Member



Kathryn Jalink
Student Board Member

Kathryn Jalink is a PhD candidate in Chemical Engineering, specializing in Biomedical Engineering at Queen's University, where she is supervised by Dr. Laura Wells and Dr. Lindsay Fitzpatrick. Her research focuses on developing injectable collagen and hyaluronic acid hydrogels to improve lens wound healing and promote organized lens regeneration as a treatment for childhood cataracts. She has had the honour of serving as the Vice President of the CBS Kingston Student Chapter since May 2024. As the student representative, her goal is to foster connections between student chapters to build a stronger student community, and to advocate for students' interests and voices within the CBS organization.

Upcoming CBS Award Deadlines

CBS has an array of awards to enable trainees to attend conferences and visit labs. **Please** check out the [CBS Awards Webpage](#) for further information on all CBS awards.

Conference Travel Awards

WBC2016 Legacy Travel Awards

Application part of CBS 2026 abstract submission.

CBS Merit & Travel Awards

No application required. All CBS student member abstract submissions to CBS 2026 are considered.

Research Experience Awards

CBS Visiting Scholar Award

To be posted (expected date in Feb/March, 2026)

WBC2016 Legacy Postdoctoral Experience Award

To be posted (expected to be in Feb/March, 2026)

Visiting Scholars Report from 2025

In 2025, Kathryn Jalink from Queen's University was awarded the CBS Visiting Scholars Award to visit Dr. Griffith May's lab at l'Université de Montréal. Here is a brief from Kathryn on her visit:

Under the guidance of Dr. Laura Wells and Dr. Lindsay Fitzpatrick at Queen's University, my research centers on developing collagen-based biomaterials for lens wound closure and regeneration. Current treatment for childhood cataracts involves phacoemulsification and intraocular lens (IOL) implantation, but nearly all infants develop posterior capsular opacification (PCO) due to protein buildup and lens fiber cell (LFC) growth on the visual axis post-surgery. My project aims to create an injectable hydrogel that gels in situ to promote organized lens regeneration and improve healing post-cataract surgery as a treatment solution for childhood cataracts.

While at the Griffith lab, I had the opportunity to be exposed to new techniques and their current research projects. A key draw for my visit was to learn about their double syringe mixing system, which mixes two solutions to create a homogeneous mixture during injection using a custom 3D-printed nozzle that can then undergo gelation in situ. Another focus of my research while at the lab was exploring different types of 3D printing. I was introduced to the new LIST (Laser Induced Side Transfer) laser printing developed by Dr. Christos Boutopoulos. I learned the basics of this technology and observed its use in printing on a nanoliter scale. I had the opportunity to develop designs for customized lab equipment using a 3D resin printer, producing prototypes such as cell inserts for my lens systems and moulds for material fabrication. Lastly, I learned about two new polymeric biomaterials while at the lab. I am translating this process back to Queen's to be tested for wound dressing applications with the Fitzpatrick lab.

This award provided a unique opportunity that I believe will have a lasting and significant impact on my career. Throughout my undergraduate and graduate studies, I had only been exposed to research at Queen's University. This award afforded me the invaluable chance to experience research at another institution, broadening my academic and professional horizons beyond my home university.

Congratulations to the CBS2025 Presentation Award Winners!

Thank you from the CBS2025 organizers for the great turnout at the most recent Annual Meeting for the Canadian Biomaterials Society. Congratulations to all of the presentation and poster winners !

Presentation winners

Baptiste Marin, L'École de echnologie supérieure
Norma Garza Flores, McMaster University
Amarnath Praphakar Rajendran, University of Alberta
Leena Regi Saleth, University of Manitoba
Sarah Spencer, Dalhousie University
Kimberly Seaman, University of Toronto
Kate MacQuarrie, University of Toronto
Adaline Farrow, McGill University
Griffin Smith, McMaster University
Mya Sharma, McMaster University
Nasteho Abdoukader, University of Ottawa
Mitchell Rhead, University of Calgary

Poster winners

Genevieve Tran, University of Toronto
Jonathan Buiel, Université de Montréal
Mona Moradi, Université de Montréal
Rida Hasan, University of Toronto
Christopher A. Rayner, Queen's University
Emily Cameron, Queen's University

Congratulations to the CBS2025 Travel Award Winners

CBS supports student travel to conferences through the WBC2016 Legacy Travel Awards and the CBS Merit & Travel awards. Congratulations to the recipients of the awards for travel to CBS2025.

WBC2016 Legacy Travel Award

Alexandra Jucan (*University of Toronto*)
Ali Mousavi (*Université de Montréal*)
Amid Shakeri (*University of Toronto*)
Arman Jafari (*Université de Montréal*)
Chinekwu Nwagwu (*University of British Columbia*)
Elisabeth Poirier (*École de Technologie Supérieure*)
Evelyn Cudmore (*McMaster University*)
Kyle Medd (*Dalhousie University*)
Marcelo Munoz (*University of Ottawa*)
Mohosin Rana (*University of British Columbia*)
Mostafa Zamani-Roudbaraki (*Université de Montréal*)
Natasha Kunchur (*Carleton University*)
Norma Garza Flores (*McMaster University*)
Peyman Malek Mohammadi Nouri (*University of British Columbia*)
Raquel Espino Lopez (*Laval University*)
Yasmeen Shamiya (*University of Western Ontario*)

CBS Merit & Travel Award

Alexandre Leblond (<i>McGill University</i>)	Kimberly Seaman (<i>University of Toronto</i>)
Alireza Nematy (<i>CHU Sainte-Justine Research Centre</i>)	Lisa Dupeyroux (<i>École de Technologie Supérieure</i>)
Amarnath Praphakar Rajendran (<i>University of Alberta</i>)	Mandeep Marway (<i>McMaster University</i>)
Ariane Léonard (<i>Centre de recherche Azrieli du CHU Sainte-Justine</i>)	Mona Moradi (<i>Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont Research Centre</i>)
Baptiste Marin (<i>École de Technologie Supérieure</i>)	Meitham Amereh (<i>University of Victoria</i>)
Chen Li (<i>McGill University</i>)	Mohammadhossein Dabaghi (<i>McMaster University</i>)
Connor Gillis (<i>Western University</i>)	Mostafa Azimzadeh (<i>University of Victoria</i>)
Daichen Liu (<i>University of Waterloo</i>)	Parisa Hajimohammadi Gohari (<i>University of Ottawa</i>)
David Gonzalez Martinez (<i>McMaster University</i>)	Samila Leon Chaviano (<i>Université Laval</i>)
Elena Rainone (<i>University of Ottawa</i>)	Sara Nejati (<i>McGill University</i>)
Emma Stephens (<i>University of Calgary</i>)	Sarah Spencer (<i>Dalhousie University</i>)
Esfandyar Askari (<i>University of Victoria</i>)	Sean Kinney (<i>University of Toronto</i>)
Farnoosh Kalantarnia (<i>University of Victoria</i>)	Tünde Lapohos (<i>Carleton University</i>)
Genevieve Tran (<i>University of Toronto</i>)	Xianglong Xing (<i>University of Manitoba</i>)
Haifeng Ji (<i>University of British Columbia</i>)	Xin (Suzie) Song (<i>University of Toronto</i>)
Haisle Moon (<i>University of British Columbia</i>)	Yawei Zhao (<i>University of Manitoba</i>)
Hamid Ebrahimi Orimi (<i>McGill University</i>)	Zi Xuan Zhang (<i>University of Toronto</i>)

The Next Annual Meeting - 2026



SAVE THE DATE!

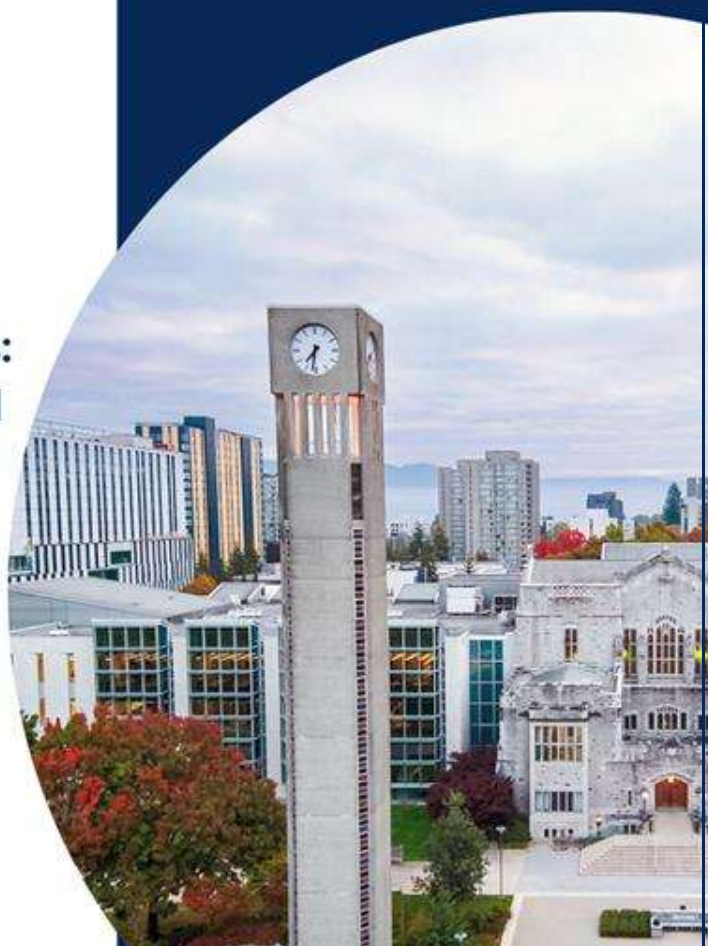
CBS/CSPA/cc-CRS Conference

**Bridging Molecules and Materials:
Innovating Medicine and Beyond**

JOIN US!

June 2-5, 2026

University of BritishColumbia



Student Chapter Updates

British Columbia Student Chapter

The BC Student Chapter is pleased to announce that we have expanded our committee to include members from the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the University of Victoria (UVic) this year! In doing so, we aim to strengthen the network of biomaterials scientists across British Columbia – which includes our participation at the **Nanomedicine Day** at UBC in November 2025.



CBS BC Student Chapter at Nanomedicine Day (November 12th, 2025).

We also hosted a Pumpkin Carving Event at UVic in October 2025, which was a successful event that integrated researchers from various biomaterials-based disciplines. Our pumpkin carving winner had particularly fascinating and creative work!



CBS BC Student Chapter Pumpkin Carving Event (October 2025)

Upcoming Events: We are excited to announce our first speaker for our Webinar Series, featuring Dr. **Grissel Trujillo-de Santiago** from Tecnológico de Monterrey. Their talk will feature their work with chaotic bioprinting and the innovative applications using this technology. Follow us on social media and subscribe to our mailing list [here](#) to find out more about our upcoming events.

Kingston Student Chapter

CBS-KSC had a great start to the semester with our *Guess the Molecular Weight Challenge!* This event was designed to understand the impacts of polymer molecular weight on biomaterial properties. Participants had to guess the molecular weight of a PLGA sample without using any analytical tools/methods. The participant who guessed closest to the actual molecular weight of the polymer won a Molymod chemical model kit! Congratulations to Kathryn for winning the challenge!



In October, we were thrilled to attend the 2025 Canadian Biomaterials Society Eastern Canada Student Research Day in Montreal! It was an amazing opportunity to help organize the conference with the Montreal and Quebec City chapters, as well as being able to network, share our research, and learn more about the amazing research that is being done by the society's student members.

Also, at the end of October we were proud to host Dr. Juan Villagomez, a research and development scientist at Octane Medical Group Inc., who gave a career-focused talk on his transition from academic research to industry. This was a great talk showcasing the types of jobs that are available in the biomaterials space for students who are looking to work in industry!



Montreal Student Chapter

On October 17th at École de Technologie Supérieure (ÉTS) in Montréal, the Montreal Student Chapter of the Canadian Biomaterials Society had the pleasure of hosting the Eastern Canada Student Research Day!

The event gathered over 140 attendees from 10 universities across Québec and Ontario: ÉTS, McGill University, Université de Montréal, Polytechnique Montréal, Concordia University, Université Laval, Queen's University, University of Waterloo, Carleton University, University of Ottawa and Carleton University. We met with CBS members and we also drawn people outside of CBS. The vast majority of the attendees were students and postdocs, we had around 15 industrials and a few research assistant/research associate/professors too.

We had 8 sessions of oral presentations and we gave 6 presentation awards. We also host a discussion panel focussed on Industry and entrepreneurship. We gather 5 sponsors, 3 of them are companies that have offices in Montreal (Morphocell technologies, Rheolution and Medtronic) and 2 of them are from ÉTS (itechsanté institute and the department of mechanical engineering).

Some pictures of the event:



Ottawa Student Chapter

We held our first event on October 24, called Relaunch & Mixer. It was our first event as a chapter, but I think it went well. We even had a couple of newcomers! We shared snacks and coffee and used a short PowerPoint to introduce the Ottawa Chapter, our executive team, and the events we're planning for the year. We also ran a small game, two truths and a lie, to help everyone get to know each other better.



Quebec Student Chapter

The Quebec City Student Chapter of the Canadian Biomaterials Society (CBS-QCSC) had an actively engaged year, organizing scientific activities, strengthening collaborations, and promoting research visibility within the biomaterials community. Throughout the semester, the chapter hosted several events ranging from online seminars to in person workshops, while also participating in regional and national activities.

The semester began with an online seminar by Dr. Hernane Barud (Brazil), who discussed strategies for designing biopolymer-based composite materials for biomedical applications. Soon after, the chapter co-organized a hybrid workshop with the Laboratory for Biomaterials and Bioengineering at Université Laval, with talks from Dr. Magdalena Bieda-Niemic (Poland) about her work on zinc-based biodegradable alloys and Dr. Frédéric Heim (France) with a presentation on fibrous polymeric materials and textile scaffolds for cardiovascular applications.



During the late summer and fall, the chapter also hosted smaller online activities, including Jacopo Profili's talk on translating plasma science into commercial ventures and Dr. Ze Zhang's seminar exploring unresolved challenges in current medical implants. These sessions, although more intimate, provided space for meaningful exchanges and interdisciplinary perspectives. In October, the chapter held its annual elections, welcoming new committee members for the 2025–2026 term, who bring fresh motivation and ideas for the upcoming year. The chapter is now under the leadership of our newly elected president, Nathália Fernanda Sczesny, a member of Diego Mantovani's research group, and as vice president, Farah Yahiaoui, from Dr. Marc-André Fortin's research group.

The CBS-QCSC was also participated at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Biomaterials Society in Kingston, where three members presented their research through posters and oral communications, reinforcing the chapter's visibility on the national stage. The chapter also took part in the Eastern Canada Student Research Day hosted by CBS Montréal, an event that got more than 140 participants from various universities and offered an excellent opportunity for students.



As next events, the in-person Wine & Cheese Networking Event on November 28th will welcome new students and encourage interactions through professor's presentations, an interactive quiz, and a friendly social atmosphere. Follow us on our LinkedIn and do not miss our next events and opportunities to get involved in making this year another success for CBS-QCSC!

CBS Membership

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone in our community to renew your membership for the coming year. Your continued support and involvement with the CBS are essential to our ability to organize activities that help engage our vibrant biomaterials research community in Canada, including our annual meeting, mentorship program, seminar series, and providing support to our Student Chapters.

Other News



The poster for the 2026 ASBTE 30th Annual Conference features a blue and white color scheme. At the top, it reads "2026 ASBTE 30TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE" next to a line-art illustration of a building and a globe. To the right, it says "07-10 APRIL NATIONAL WINE CENTRE ADELAIDE AUSTRALIA". The main body of the poster is dark blue with the ASBTE logo (a blue map of Australia with a grid) and the text "AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR BIOMATERIALS AND TISSUE ENGINEERING". Below this, it lists "30th Annual Conference Adelaide, South Australia" and "07-10 APRIL 2026". The website "asbte2026.org" is at the bottom left. A white circle on the right contains the text "SAVE THE DATE" in orange. The background of the lower half shows a blurred image of a modern building interior.

**2026 ASBTE
30TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**

**07-10 APRIL
NATIONAL WINE CENTRE
ADELAIDE AUSTRALIA**

ASBTE

**AUSTRALASIAN
SOCIETY FOR
BIOMATERIALS
AND TISSUE
ENGINEERING**

30th Annual Conference
Adelaide, South Australia
07-10 APRIL 2026

asbte2026.org

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Thanks for Reading!

On behalf of the Canadian Biomaterials Society
Communications Committee and Board of Directors

<https://biomaterials.ca>