



ESB Newsletter - June 9, 2026

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Dear members of the European Society for Biomaterials,

I am delighted to share the latest news and updates from the European Society for Biomaterials (ESB).

In this edition of our newsletter, you will find the list of the **ESB scientific 2026 awardees**, feedback on the **CESB 2026**, the appointment of a **new Editor-In-Chief for our official journal**, information on the vote for the **ESB 50th Anniversary logo competition**, early bird registration and late poster abstracts submissions **announcements for ESB 2026** in Antwerpen, details about the various **upcoming themed collections of our Official Journal**, a new **ESB Award Winner interview on YouTube**, an update on our **website** and the requirement of your kind participation in a **survey to make it better**, a reminder about the **upcoming nominations for IUSBSE Fellows**, and a word of caution regarding **fraudulent emails**.

ESB Scientific 2026 Awardees

We are delighted to inform you that the **Independent Awards Committee of the ESB** has selected the winners of the **ESB Scientific Awards 2026**.

We extend our sincere gratitude to **Professor Maria Pau Ginebra, Professor Lucy Di Silvio, Professor Mirosława El Fray, Professor Peter Dubruel, and Professor Molly Stevens**, the members of the **2026 Awards Committee**, for their dedication in evaluating each nomination. The committee reviewed a total of **six nominations for the George Winter Award, eight for the Jean Leray Award, four for the International Award, and four for the Klaas de Groot Award**. We also thank our members for their nominations, which reflect the strong engagement of our community and the appreciation for the outstanding work of our colleagues.

The winner of the [2025 George Winter Award](#) is Professor **Manuel Salmeron-Sanchez**. The George Winter award recognizes, encourages, and stimulates outstanding research contributions to the field of biomaterials.



The winner of the [2025 Jean Leray Award](#) is Dr. **Małgorzata Włodarczyk-Biegun**. The Jean Leray award honors early-career scientists for their outstanding research contributions to the field of biomaterials.

The winner of the [2025 International Award](#) is Professor **Diego Mantovani**. The International award recognizes scientists who have generally spent their careers outside Europe, are internationally acclaimed, have a high scientific profile, and have made major contributions to the field of biomaterials.



The winner of the [2025 Klaas de Groot Award](#) is Professor **Abhay Pandit**. The Klaas de Groot award acknowledges scientists who have demonstrated a distinct ability to provide excellent mentorship and guidance to young researchers, helping them establish their independent careers.

Congratulations to all awardees on this remarkable achievement!

The 2026 awardees have been invited to deliver plenary lectures at the [next ESB annual meeting](#) taking place from September 7 to 11, 2025, in Antwerp, Belgium (<https://esb2026.org>). Do not miss the opportunity to attend their plenary lectures and celebrate their accomplishments in person!

CESB 2026 - A Successful Event

The 9th China-Europe Symposium on Biomaterials in Regenerative Medicine (**CESB 2026**) was successfully held in Beijing from the **10th to the 13th of May 2026**. The event, which was attended by over 550 delegates, marked the 20th anniversary of the CESB series and, as over the past two decades, provided a highly productive platform to showcase leading biomaterials research from China and Europe while strengthening connections, collaboration, and friendship.

A huge thank you to the Chinese and European communities for making this event possible! Particular thanks are extended to the plenary speakers and keynote speakers from Europe:

Plenary speakers

- Professor Liam Grover (University of Birmingham, UK)
- Professor Ana Paula Pêgo (i3S - University of Porto, Portugal)
- Professor Sabine van Rijt (Maastricht University, The Netherlands)
- Professor Manuel Salmeron Sanchez (IBEC, Barcelona, Spain & University of Glasgow, UK)

Keynote speakers

- Professor Maria Chatzinikolaidou (University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece)
- Professor Matteo D'Este (AO Research Institute, Switzerland)
- Professor Nicholas Dunne (Dublin City University, Ireland)
- Professor Nicolas L'Heureux (INSERM/University of Bordeaux, France)
- Professor Elżbieta Pamuła (AGH University of Krakow, Poland)
- Dr. Maria Grazia Raucci, CNR-IPCB, Italy
- Professor Matteo Santin, University of Brighton, UK)
- Professor Izabela-Cristina Stancu, National University of Science & Technology Politehnica, Romania

Congratulations also to the European awardees of the best oral and poster presentations that were presented during CESB 2026, which were generously sponsored by *Biomaterials Science*.

Best oral presentations

- Zhendong Zhong (Paris Sciences & Lettres, France)
- Marilia Torrado (i3S - University of Porto, Portugal)
- Justyna Więcek-Chmielarz (Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland)

Best poster presentation

- Ji Ding (Université Paris Cité, France)

Related to this event, our official journal, *Biomaterials Science*, will have a **Special Issue for CESB 2026** and is now inviting submissions. Original research articles that align with the conference themes, highlighting advances at the intersection of biomaterials, biology, and regenerative medicine, are welcome. More information can be found in the 'ESB official Journal' section of the newsletter hereafter.

Stay tuned for the **10th China-Europe Symposium of Biomaterials in Regenerative Medicine, CESB 2028**, which will take place in **Crete (Greece)** and will be chaired by **Professor Maria Chatz Nikolaidou**.

New Editor-in-Chief of *Biomaterials Science*

The ESB is proud to announce that our President, Professor Nicholas Dunne (Dublin City University, Ireland), has been appointed **Editor-in-Chief of *Biomaterials Science***.

This appointment underscores the ESB's commitment to advancing biomaterials research, innovation, and clinical translation.

As Editor-in-Chief, Professor Dunne aims to position *Biomaterials Science* as a leading platform for rigorous, mechanistic studies that bridge material design, biological response, and clinical needs, all core values of the ESB's mission.

ESB 50th Anniversary Logo Competition - Do not forget to Vote!

The **Logo Competition** to celebrate the ESB 50th anniversary is reaching its completion. It is now time to select one of the three designs proposed by members of the **Young Scientists Forum (YSF)**. Please give your opinion and vote [here](#) before the **June 14, 2026**.

Remember to use your **ESB-website registered email address** when voting so that your vote will be taken into account.

ESB 2026 - 35th Annual Conference in Antwerp, Belgium - Early Bird Registration

Late Poster Abstract Submission Now Open!

Missed the initial abstract deadline? There is still time to present your work at ESB 2026.

Due to continued interest from the community, we are pleased to announce that late poster abstract submission is now open. We invite researchers, clinicians, engineers and students to share their latest findings and innovations during the ESB conference celebrating the 50th Anniversary of our society.

Take this opportunity to contribute to what promises to be a landmark scientific program shaped by international experts across all biomaterials disciplines.

Submission Deadline: 14 June 2026

Abstract template and submission guidelines are available on our website: [Abstracts – ESB 2026](#)

Registration Now Open

Secure your place at ESB 2026 and take advantage of early bird rates.

Early Bird Registration (Until 15 June 2026) via our website: [Registration – ESB 2026](#)



The banner features the ESB 2026 logo on the left, which consists of three orange spheres of varying sizes above the text 'ESB 2026'. The main text in the center reads '35th Annual Conference of the European Society for Biomaterials' in a dark red font, followed by '7 - 11 September 2026' and 'Antwerp, Belgium' in a lighter red font. The website 'esb2026.org' is at the bottom center. On the right, there is a stylized illustration of a human head profile composed of numerous red and orange spheres, with a red circle containing '50 years ESB' overlaid on it.

2025 Edition of the Official ESB Themed Collection

Biomaterials Science has launched the **Official ESB 2025 themed collection**, showcasing some of the research that was presented at the 34th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Biomaterials, held in September 2025. As the official journal of the European Society for Biomaterials, *Biomaterials Science* works in partnership with the ESB to highlight some of the top research from the community. The ESB2025 collection also features additional papers from ESB members. We hope you enjoy reading this collection of featured research. **All articles are free to read until 31 December 2026** at <https://pubs.rsc.org/asa/journals/articlecollectionlanding?themeID=f0b8cc9f-ab76-439d-9c7d-13b9ac8ceaaf>

2026 Edition of the Official ESB Themed Collection

Later this year, *Biomaterials Science* will launch the **Official ESB 2026 themed collection**, which brings a fantastic opportunity for ESB members to showcase their work. This year's collection will feature research presented at the ESB 2026 annual conference, along with additional papers from ESB members who have opted-in* to have their *Biomaterials Science* papers included. **These featured papers will be free to read for an extended period in the journal. They will be actively promoted through the ESB newsletter and across key journal channels and included in a dedicated online collection to maximise visibility within the community.** Any questions or expression of interest to the collection can be indicated by emailing: biomaterialsscience-rsc@rsc.org

* Authors will be prompted upon submission to indicate whether they are an ESB member in good standing, and if they would like their paper added to the collection post-publication.

Biomaterials Science Lectureship Award – Winner 2026

We are thrilled to announce that **Dr. Hua Wang**, Associate Professor at the Department of Materials Science & Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, is the recipient of the **2026 *Biomaterials Science* Lectureship Award** and will present his work at the ESB 2026 conference.

This annually presented lectureship recognises early-career researchers, typically within twelve years of attaining their PhD (or equivalent degree), who have made significant contributions to the field of biomaterials. **Nominations for the 2027 *Biomaterials Science* Lectureship are now open, until 31 January 2027.** For more details, please visit the journal website:

<https://www.rsc.org/standards-and-recognition/prizes/journal-lectureships/biomaterials-science-lectureship>

Call for Papers – *Biomaterials Science* Special Issue CESB 2026

Biomaterials Science is inviting submissions to a **special issue associated with** the 9th China–Europe Symposium on Biomaterials in Regenerative Medicine (**CESB 2026**). We welcome original research articles aligned with the conference themes, showcasing advances at the interface of biomaterials, biology, and regenerative medicine. This special issue offers an excellent opportunity for broad international visibility within the biomaterials community. **Submission deadline: 31 October 2026.**

For **more details**, please visit the conference website:

https://cesb2026.csbm.org.cn/index.php/index/index/artcle_detail.html?artcle_id=193

For further information, please contact: biomaterialsscience-rsc@rsc.org

2024 George Winter Award winner is on YouTube! Professor Aldo R. Boccaccini

If you have not done so yet, take a moment to watch our latest video highlighting a testimonial from the **2024 George Winter Award winner, Professor Aldo R. Boccaccini**, who offers a positive vision for the future of biomaterials through his rich experience.

You can find both a [short](#) and [long version](#) of this video on YouTube, as well as on the home page of our website and the ESB [Past Winners – Scientific Achievements](#) page.

As a reminder, if you are interested in helping with the editing of existing videos or filming new ones during the **ESB 2026 Conference**, we'd be delighted to have your expertise! Simply email the [ESB Communication Officer to volunteer](#). This is a fantastic opportunity to gain valuable experience, receive credit for your contributions, and connect with inspiring researchers in the field.

Stay tuned for more videos in the coming months!

Website Update and Your Opinion

The **ESB website** is an important hub for the latest information and for connecting with fellow members through the [Member Profile Library](#) where you can browse numerous profiles!

However, we are starting a reflection on how to improve it further. You may have noticed some glitches or have ideas for new functionalities. Please let us know! **Take 5 minutes** to fill out this online form and help us create a new version of the website that is more adapted to your uses and needs : [ESB Website Feedback Survey](#).

Finally, do not forget **to keep your ESB member profile up to date**. It's the best way to network with fellow members and enhance your visibility. **You can update your email address and your short biography in the « Personal Information » section of your ESB account on the website**. This ensures that other members can reach you and that you won't miss any important updates from the ESB!

Mark Your Calendars: Nominations for IUSBSE Fellows

Please be aware that the call for **nominations for European International Union of Societies for Biomaterials Science and Engineering (IUSBSE) Fellows** is expected to open around **March 2027**.

As a reminder, this Fellowship recognizes members of constituent biomaterials societies of the [World Biomaterials Congress](#) who have gained a status of excellent professional standing and high achievements in the field of biomaterials science and engineering.

Fraudulent Emails: Phishing

The ESB community is urged to exercise heightened **caution regarding suspicious emails purporting to be from ESB council members**. It is crucial to note that the ESB Council will never solicit financial assistance from its membership via email. Be wary of any unexpected communications, especially those requesting funds or personal information. **If you receive a suspicious email, do not respond or click on any links. Instead, report it as spam and forward it to the official ESB email address for verification.**

Finally, on behalf of the ESB Council, thank you for your continued engagement and support. We look forward to seeing many of you at ESB 2026 in Antwerp this September to connect, share our latest work, and mark the Society's 50th anniversary.

Kind regards,



Nicholas Dunne, President

(on behalf of the ESB Council)