



**ESB Newsletter - July 8, 2026**

**WBC 2028 - Call for Ideas | WBC 2028 - Survey | ESB 2026 - Scientific Excellence in the Heart of Antwerp | ESB 50th Anniversary Logo Contest Winner | ESB Webinar - 28th July 2026 | ESB Education Awards | Website Update and Your Opinion | Fraudulent Emails: Phishing**

**Dear members of the European Society for Biomaterials,**

I am delighted to share the latest news and updates from the organisers of the World Biomaterials Congress (WBC 2028) and the European Society for Biomaterials (ESB).

In this edition of our newsletter, we feature two requests from the **WBC 2028** organisers: submit your **ideas for sessions** at the meeting and participate in a **survey** to collate key information from the Biomaterials community in preparation for WBC 2028. We also share the **latest updates on ESB 2026 in Antwerp**, announce the **winner of the ESB 50th Anniversary Logo Contest**, and reveal details about our **summer webinar in association with the National Affiliated Societies**. Additionally, we celebrate the **2026 Julia Polak European Doctorate and Raquel LeGros Awardees**, provide an **update on our website** and invite your **feedback through a survey**, and conclude with an important **warning about fraudulent emails**.

### **WBC 2028 - Call for Ideas**

The Society For Biomaterials is excited to announce that the **Call for Ideas is now open** for the **2028 World Biomaterials Congress**, taking place **Monday, April 24 - Saturday, April 29, 2028**, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC.

The theme for the 2028 World Biomaterials Congress, ***Navigating Global Biomaterials Innovation***, reflects a pivotal moment in our field—where groundbreaking discoveries, translational research, and real-world applications are driving the future of biomaterials science and technology on a global scale.

This prestigious global event will bring together leading scientists, engineers, clinicians, industry professionals, entrepreneurs, and students from across the biomaterials community to explore the latest innovations shaping the future of the field.

We invite you to help create a bold, forward-thinking scientific program by submitting ideas for sessions that inspire innovation, foster collaboration, and highlight the most exciting advancements in biomaterials research and translation.

The Planning Committee is especially interested in sessions that are pertinent to industry and explore the newest and emerging areas of biomaterials research across the many disciplines represented within the SFB World Congress, including - but not limited to:

- Breakthroughs in biomaterials science
- Translation of basic research into clinical application

- Next-generation medical devices
- Advanced manufacturing and AI in biomaterials
- Commercialisation and entrepreneurship
- Standards development and regulatory considerations
- Emerging interdisciplinary technologies and therapies

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are strongly encouraged to collaborate with other SIGs and/or industry partners to develop dynamic, engaging, and highly relevant sessions for attendees from around the world.

### **Two-Stage Proposal Process**

A two-stage proposal process will be used to select session topics for the 2028 World Biomaterials Congress:

#### Stage 1 – Call for Ideas

The Program Committee will review submitted ideas and identify those that best align with the overall programmatic objectives. Selected organisers will then be invited to submit a full proposal. In some cases, organisers with similar ideas may be encouraged to collaborate and submit a joint proposal. Full proposals will be due in early August.

#### Stage 2 – Full Proposal Review

Full proposals will be reviewed by the Program Committee, and selected sessions will move forward into the official Call for Abstracts. Call for Abstracts is scheduled to open in December 2026. The abstract submission deadline is anticipated for July 2027.

Final inclusion in the scientific program will depend on the quality and quantity of abstracts submitted to each session. Sessions with limited submissions may be combined to strengthen the overall program. Session Organisers are strongly encouraged to actively promote and solicit abstracts for their session topics to maximise participation and success.

Notifications regarding final session acceptance are anticipated by November 2027.

Click [HERE](#) to view the full process and see how an idea becomes a session.

This is your opportunity to help shape the future of biomaterials and contribute to an exceptional global scientific program.

**The deadline to submit your idea is July 31, 2026**

[Submit Your Ideas Today!](#)

### **WBC 2028 - Survey**

We kindly invite ESB members to complete a short survey prepared by the organisers of WBC 2028. The aim is to gather key information on your travel plans and any concerns you may have, to help ensure that the meeting is as accessible and well organised as possible for the biomaterials community. The survey can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#).

## ESB 2026 - Scientific Excellence in the Heart of Antwerp

ESB 2026 continues to attract strong international interest, with **already more than 1,000 registrations confirmed**.

Delegates can look forward to an outstanding scientific programme featuring **> 100 keynote presentations**, **> 600 oral presentations** and **> 600 poster presentations**.

Beyond the science, attendees can enjoy a vibrant social programme. Young researchers are invited to join the **Student & Young Scientist Night Out**, a relaxed evening dedicated to networking and connecting with peers from across Europe.

Another highlight will be the **Conference Dinner at Horta**, one of Antwerp's most iconic Art Nouveau venues.

This exclusive evening will bring together the ESB community in a unique setting to celebrate both scientific excellence and the **50th anniversary of the European Society for Biomaterials**.

Hosted at the **Flanders Meeting & Convention Center Antwerp - "A Room with a ZOO"**, the conference offers a truly unique experience, with state-of-the-art facilities located right next to Antwerp Zoo and only steps away from the magnificent Antwerp Central Station.

Delegates will discover a vibrant, historic and easily accessible city, renowned for its culture, architecture, gastronomy and innovation.

7-11 September 2026 | Antwerp, Belgium

[www.esb2026.org](http://www.esb2026.org)



## ESB 50th Anniversary Logo Contest Winner

The **ESB 50th Anniversary Logo Competition** has concluded, and we are thrilled to announce the winner: **"Celebrating Five Decades of Biomaterials Research"** by **Sharun Khan**, Postdoctoral Fellow at Aalborg University, Department of Health Science and Technology, Denmark.



Sharun's design captures the essence of ESB's journey with a biomaterial scaffold at its core, symbolizing the Society's scientific focus. Encircling the scaffold is a golden ring, marking the 50-year milestone from 1976 to 2026, intentionally left open to signify the ongoing mission of ESB. This thoughtful design reflects the Society's commitment to innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and scientific excellence in biomaterials research, while also celebrating its strong foundations and forward-looking vision.

**We also extend our gratitude to the other talented participants for their creative and inspiring submissions.** Thank you to everyone who participated in the vote and **congratulations to Sharun Khan** for this outstanding contribution!

#### ESB Webinar - 28<sup>th</sup> July 2026

Maria Grazia Raucci, our Liaison Officer for the National Affiliated Societies, together with the Presidents of our Affiliated Societies, have organised the **Summer webinar**, which will take place on **28 July 2026 | 13:00-14:00 (CET)**. We are thrilled to welcome **Dr Thomas Robinson from the UK Society for Biomaterials (UKSB)** and **Dr Debby Gawlitta from the Netherlands Society for Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering (NBTE)** as our distinguished speakers. Thomas will present their latest research titled "Spray It Forward: Therapeutic Polysaccharide Formulations for Equitable Healthcare" and "Size matters in bone regeneration". Registration for the webinar event is **FREE**, **but you need to register [HERE](#)**. Those registered will receive the link for the webinar closer to the time of the event. For any questions, please contact us at [secretary@esbiomaterials.eu](mailto:secretary@esbiomaterials.eu).

#### Julia Polak European Doctorate and Raquel LeGeros Awardees 2026

We are pleased to share that the recipients of the **Julia Polak European Doctorate Awards** and the **Raquel LeGeros Awards** for **2026** have been announced on the ESB website. These prestigious awards highlight outstanding contributions by early-career researchers in the field of biomaterials. The awardees will receive **official recognition during the General Assembly of the Young Scientist Forum (YSF)**, which will take place during the **ESB 2026 Conference**. We warmly congratulate all the award recipients and look forward to celebrating their achievements in person!

#### 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!

Please remember that we are starting a reflection on how to **improve the website 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!

### 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)*