



Call for Nominations: ASBTE Emerging Leadership Award 2026

The Committee of the Australasian Society for Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering invites nominations for the ASBTE Emerging Leadership Award. This award recognises an early-to-mid career researcher, who has demonstrated outstanding leadership contributions to ASBTE and broader communities in biomaterials and tissue engineering. This award will be given every second year.

Nomination Process and Selection Criteria

Any member of the Society in good standing may nominate candidates for the award. The deadline for the nomination is **18 February 2026**.

Selection criteria include:

1. The early career researcher must be a current member of the ASBTE and must have been a continuous member of the society for a minimum of two full years prior to the submission deadline.
2. The nominee must be less than ten years post PhD at the close of nomination. (considering career interruption)

The award is determined by a selection committee appointed by the ASBTE Committee and chaired by the Society President.

The following information must accompany each nomination:

1. Name and affiliation of the nominating ASBTE member, and one international member of the biomaterials or tissue engineering field.
2. A 1 page (maximum) statement from the nominating member and international expert describing the reasons for the nomination. It is an expectation that the below criteria as stated in the guidelines are clearly articulated by the nominators.
3. Name, contact details, and affiliation of the nominee.
4. A copy of the PhD certificate of the nominee showing the date awarded.
5. A 1 page (maximum) personal statement from the nominee articulating their vision for progressing the biomaterials and tissue engineering field in the future.
6. A 3 page (maximum) Curriculum Vitae of the nominee, including a brief description of the main field of professional activity, memberships of professional organisations, awards already received, a list of publications and patents, a list of plenary/keynote lectures at international conferences, a list of contributions to technology translation and commercialisation, and other relevant information.

The Award: The award consists of an inscribed medal and a cheque for \$1,000 and will be presented at the next ASBTE annual meeting, where the awardee will be invited to make a keynote speech on their research and leadership contributions.

Please send nominations addressing the selection criteria above to the attention of the ASBTE President Prof Jelena Rnjak-Kovacina (j.rnjak-kovacina@unsw.edu.au) on or before 18 February 2026.

Guidelines for the Selection Committee: The ASBTE Emerging Leadership Award recognizes an early career member of the Australasian Society for Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering who has demonstrated outstanding contributions and potential to the Society and developing, maintaining and promoting the goals of the Society and the wider Biomaterials/Tissue Engineering communities. The selection panel may rank each nominee on the following criteria and make a judgement as to the best candidate to receive the award:

1. Nominees major contribution to ABSTE: (50 points)
 - i. Service to the society over a significant period of time
 - ii. Contribution towards a positive change in the society
 - iii. Contribution towards ASBTE's national standing
2. Nominees major contribution to the discipline of biomaterials and tissue engineering: (25 points)
 - i. Publications in peer reviewed journals, citations and h index, books and book chapters, are clearly articulated by the nominators, *and/or*
 - ii. Evidence of end-user translation, which could include patents, clinical trials, commercial engagement, and outreach.
3. Leadership/mentoring roles: (15 points)
 - i. Contribution to student/peer mentoring and/or training
 - ii. Leadership positions in organization, which may include university, government and/or industry
4. Other Achievements/contributions: (10 points)
 - i. The selection panel may consider any other achievements/contributions cited in the nomination that may be recognized to demonstrate nominee's contributions to the discipline.