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From the president,

Dear ASBTE friends and colleagues,

It's summer again and we approach the end of another year. I hope you all are looking forward to a well-deserved break like I am, and to starting a brand new year.

The ASBTE community is excited about plans for our Annual conference in Melbourne in 2022. For the first time in 4 years, it will be a return to the full ASBTE conference format. (Noting that in 2019 we had both a strategy day and a conference partnered with TERMIS-AP, 2020 was WBC (virtual), and 2021 was our online showcase). Our last full conference was in Freemantle WA in 2018. (I find it hard to believe that there would be some PhD students who have graduated and never have attended a full ASBTE conference... time to change that).

It will be fantastic to gather once again as a community and see all of the exciting developments and achievements from our colleagues, friends, and industry partners. I am confident that the planned social events and scientific program will be first rate and so I encourage all to attend.

ASBTE is once again planning on offering awards to support members to attend this conference. Be sure to keep up to date with our online information and member update emails. Now would also be a good time to renew your membership for 2022 (if you haven't already).

After seeing all of the developments that 2020 and 2021 has brought, I'm reminded time and again of the resilience of our membership. Together, ASBTE members celebrate our achievements and commiserate our set-backs – we adapt to change and we are kind to one another. I think this is a great message to take into the holiday season: be kind to one another and lend a hand to those in need when you can.

Wishing you all a merry Christmas, happy holidays, and happy new year.

Bryan

Bryan Coad, President

ASBTE Committee Members



Bryan Coad
(President)



Khoon Lim
(Vice-President)



Veronica Glattauer
(Executive Officer)



Jelena Rnjak-Kovacina
(Treasurer)



Anna Waterhouse



Daniel Health
(Ordinary members)



Jessica Frith



Yu Suk Choi

International Union of Societies for Biomaterials Science and Engineering (IUSBSE) Delegates

Helmut Thissen

Tim Woodfield

Science and Technologies Australia (STA) Liaison Officer

Kelly Tsang

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- Elena M. De-Juan-Pardo (WA)

ECR Representatives

- Xiaolin Cui (NZ)
- Farhad Soheilmoghaddam (QLD)
- Fatemeh Karimi (NSW)
- Lu Fu (NSW)
- Ashley Murphy (VIC)
- Tao Huang (VIC)

Student Representatives

- Danielle Vahala (WA)
- Samuel Maher (WA)
- Asawari Parulekar (QLD)
- Aswathi Gopalakrishnan (QLD)
- Jasneil Singh (NSW)
- Tiffany Goh (NSW)
- Anu Sabu (VIC)
- Gretel Major (NZ)

ASBTE 2022 Conference

The Australasian Society for Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering invites you to attend the 27th ASBTE Annual Conference at **Melbourne Connect**, Victoria, Australia, from **20 to 22 April 2022**. The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for Biomaterials, Tissue Engineering & Regenerative Medicine Scientists and Engineers to come together and discuss recent developments in research on all aspects of Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering, ranging from Surface Modification and Biointerfaces to Biopolymers, Implants, Materials for Drug Delivery, Nanomaterials, Scaffolds, Materials for Cell Therapies and Clinical Applications. During the three days, attendees will also have an opportunity to network and develop collaborations with colleagues from around the world.

The Conference is being planned as an in-person event following COVID-19 safety protocols. If border closures or other restrictions prevent travel, remote presentation options may be provided to affected presenters.

The Organising Committee looks forward to a vibrant Conference in person in Melbourne and we hope to see you at the 27th Australasian Society for Biomaterial and Tissue Engineering 2022 Annual Conference (<https://asbte2022.com.au/>).

ASBTE 2022 Annual Conference Organising Committee

Professor Andrea O'Connor, University of Melbourne

Professor Neil Cameron, Monash University

Dr Brooke Farrugia, University of Melbourne

Dr Amy Gelmi, RMIT University

Ms Veronica Glattauer, CSIRO

A/Professor Daniel Heath, University of Melbourne

A/Professor Khoon Lim, University of Otago

A/Professor Jelena Rnjak-Kovacina, University of New South Wales

Plenary Speakers

Professor Maria Kavallaris, University of New South Wales

Professor Megan Munsie, University of Melbourne

Professor Thomas Scheibel, University of Bayreuth

Keynote Speakers

A/Professor Rona Chandrawati, University of New South Wales

Dr Amy Gelmi, RMIT University

A/Professor Khoon Lim, University of Otago

A/Professor Daniela Loessner, Monash University

Professor Alistair Sloan, University of Melbourne

Dr Yu Suk Choi, University of Western Australia

A/Professor Shrike Zhang, Harvard



ASBTE 2022 Conference Travel Grants

Announcement

The ASBTE will fund Travel Grants up to \$500.00 each for postgraduate research students and early career researchers to attend the ASBTE Annual Conference, Melbourne Connect, VIC, 20-22 April 2022. This document summarises the eligibility criteria, guidelines for the application and application submission deadlines. The major objectives of these travel grants are to provide students with:

- Financial assistance to attend the ASBTE Annual Conference, to present their research, network with peers and develop new collaborations or enhance existing collaborations;
- The opportunity to interact with groups outside their specific research area.

These grants are available solely for the purpose of attending the ASBTE Annual Conference and will not be awarded for any other conference or meeting. The decisions on the Grants will be made by the ASBTE Committee and may vary at the Committee's discretion.

Guidelines

Eligibility

- Full-time postgraduate student currently enrolled at a recognised higher education provider, or early-career researcher with less than 3 years of post-doctoral experience between date of award of PhD and date of application for grant.
- Current, paid, financial member of ASBTE for the 2021 & 2022 calendar years
- Applicants should be enrolled/employed in Australia or New Zealand, but applications from expatriate ASBTE members will also be considered.
- Accepted oral or poster presentation at the conference
- INCOMPLETE/LATE APPLICATIONS INELIGIBLE

Any risks associated with travel are not the responsibility of ASBTE. It is the responsibility of the Student/ECR and their Supervisor to ensure compliance with their host University/Institute travel policy.

Application

At the time of application, applicants must submit online:

- i. A completed application form [here](https://bit.ly/3lvrg1l) (<https://bit.ly/3lvrg1l>)
- ii. Evidence of study/employment and PhD completion date (if applicable)
- iii. ASBTE membership receipt for 2021 & 2022
- iv. Evidence of abstract acceptance

If any of these items are missing, your application will be deemed ineligible. The conference travel awards are intended to help those who have difficulty attending the conference through shortage of funds. The decisions on the awards will be made by the ASBTE Committee and may vary in amount at the discretion of the Committee.

Application forms are also provided on the ASBTE website (<https://www.asbte.org/about-1>).

Submission Details

Applications should be submitted to the online form [here](https://bit.ly/3lvrg1l) (<https://bit.ly/3lvrg1l>) no later than 5 pm (AEST) on Friday 28th January 2022.

All documentation, including relevant membership receipts, must be supplied at the time of application.

If any of the items are missing, your application will be deemed ineligible.

Please do not submit applications by post or email.

Any questions, please contact **Anna Waterhouse** (anna.waterhouse@sydney.edu.au)

ASBTE Award of Research Excellence 2022

ASBTE Award of Research Excellence 2022

Eligibility and Guidelines for Nomination:

1. This award recognizes a member of ASBTE who has made a significant contribution to the discipline of biomaterials and tissue engineering
2. Any member of the Society in good standing may nominate candidates for the award
3. The deadline for nomination is **1st March 2022**
4. The following information must accompany each nomination:
 - a. Name and affiliation of three nominating members and statements from each nominator describing the reasons for nomination (1-2 pages). It is an expectation that the criteria as stated in the guidelines are clearly articulated by the nominations.
 - b. Name, address and affiliation of the nominee
 - c. A Curriculum Vitae of the nominee, as far as is known, including education, membership of professional organizations, honours already received, main field of professional activity and a list of publications
5. Only one award will be presented
6. The Award consists of an inscribed medal and will be presented at the ASBTE AGM 2022

Guidelines for the Selection Committee:

The ASBTE Award for Research Excellence recognizes a member of the Australasian Society for Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering who has made a significant contribution to the discipline of biomaterials and tissue engineering. 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 the discipline of biomaterials and tissue engineering: (25 points)
 - I. publications in peer reviewed journals
 - II. Citations and h index
 - III. Books and book chapters
2. Recognition by the International Scientific Community: (25 points)
 - I. Invitations to present plenary/keynote lectures in international conferences
 - II. International Society Fellowships
 - III. Memberships in Journal Editorial Boards and/or industry Board roles
 - IV. Awards
 - V. Positions held in professional societies
3. Contributions to Technology Innovations and Commercialisation:(25 points)
 - I. Patents awarded
 - II. Commercial outcomes from his/her research
 - III. Start-up companies established and/or national/global impact of translational research
4. Leadership/mentoring roles: (15 points)
 - I. Number of PhD students or research scientists mentored
 - II. Number of post doctoral scientists
 - III. Leadership positions in university and/or industry
 - IV. Leadership positions in organising national/international conferences
5. 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. Examples may include industry consultancies, commercialisation, memberships in expert/advisory panels etc

Nominations close 1st March 2022

Submissions sent to Bryan Coad bryan.coad@adelaide.edu.au

Please visit the website for more information (<https://www.asbte.org/awards>).

ASBTE Emerging Leadership Award 2022

Call for Nominations: ASBTE Emerging Leadership Award 2022

The Committee of the Australasian Society for Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering invites nominations for the *ASBTE Emerging Leadership Award 2022*.

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 **1 March 2022**. The successful candidate will be announced at the next ASBTE annual meeting. The award is determined by the selection committee chaired by the Society President. The award will consist of an inscribed medal and a cheque for \$1,000 and will be presented at the next ASBTE annual meeting. Only 1 award will be presented.

The following information must accompany each nomination:

1. Name and affiliation of three nominating members and statements from each nominator describing the reasons for nomination (2 pages maximum). It is an expectation that the criteria as stated in the guidelines are clearly articulated by the nominations.
2. Name, address and affiliation of the nominee.
3. A Curriculum Vitae of the nominee, as far as is known, including education, membership of professional organizations, honours already received, main field of professional activity and a list of publications.

Selection Criteria:

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 (including career interruption).

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 to the Society and potential in 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 ASBTE: (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 standing in Australia / New Zealand
2. Nominees major contribution to the discipline of biomaterials and tissue engineering: (25 points)
 - I. Publications in peer reviewed journals
 - II. Citations and h index
 - III. Books and book chapters
 - IV. Invitations to present posters/lectures at conferences
3. Leadership/mentoring roles: (15 points)
 - I. Contribution to student/peer mentoring and/or training
 - II. Leadership positions in university 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.

Please visit the website for more information (<https://www.asbte.org/awards>).

Please e-mail nominations to the attention of bryan.coad@adelaide.edu.au on or before 1 March, 2022.

ASBTE Logo Design Competition



The ASBTE logo, shown above, has been in use since 2007. After consultation with the membership, the committee has decided that it is time to consider a new logo, with the help of you, our lovely members! We therefore **invite you to contribute your ideas for a new inspiring and eye-catching ASBTE logo.**

The design criteria are as follows: the logo should

- Be representative of biomaterials
- Be representative of Australasia
- Contain the letters ASBTE

To provide you with an idea of how to create a winning design, below are the points of explanation provided by the designer of the current logo:

The symbol incorporates:

- Orthogonal lines denoting biomaterials, scaffolds, or cell
- Four point stars denoting cells
- An interconnected logo illustrating cells connected together with the help of biomaterials
- An interconnected logo illustrating centres of research networked together by the ASBTE
- The Southern cross representing the Australian origin of the ASBTE
- Outstretched symbol indicates growth of the ASBTE as it networks into the Indo-Asia-Pacific region

The winning designer will receive a free registration to the ASBTE 2022 conference. Additionally, the winning designer will also be credited in future ASBTE publications and recognised on our website.

Please submit your design plus a brief explanation to [ASBTE logo competition](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjrnrhFwojBjZGb7zgqeUpQz2fzyaCHY57TjMiWWJtSjF6dg/vi) (<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjrnrhFwojBjZGb7zgqeUpQz2fzyaCHY57TjMiWWJtSjF6dg/vi>) by 1st March, 2022.

Biomaterial Bites

We have started a new initiative to showcase the fantastic people that make up our society:

Biomaterial Bites is a series of 5-minute videos that you can watch to find out more – perfect to watch on your coffee break. We would love to highlight the diversity of our members, at all career stages, locations and research interests so if you would like to participate, please contact Jessica.frith@monash.edu

Previous interviews can be found on the ASBTE website: <https://www.asbte.org/biomaterial-bites> or our youtube channel:

- #1 Bryan Coad, [youtube.com/watch?v=QcsFareWUtU&t=10s&ab](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QcsFareWUtU&t=10s&ab)
- #2 Penny Martens, [youtube.com/watch?v=SQZ_8EEC3iM&ab](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQZ_8EEC3iM&ab)
- #3 Khoon Lim, [youtube.com/watch?v=AB1HcE3iF9M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AB1HcE3iF9M)
- #4 Ashley Murphy, [youtube.com/watch?v=SO5f4OCO1As&t=3s&ab](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SO5f4OCO1As&t=3s&ab)
- #5 Gretel Major, [youtube.com/watch?v=bwwkhcLyPaY&ab](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bwwkhcLyPaY&ab)

Congratulations: Grants and Awards



Professor Tony Weiss

- Fellow of the US National Academy of Inventors
- Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation
- Weickhardt Medal from the Royal Australian Chemical Institute



Professor Andrea O'Connor

- The Victorian Government International Research Partnerships Program – VESKI



A/Professor Khoon Lim

- Rutherford Discovery Fellowship



Dr Anna Waterhouse

- Cardiovascular Research Capacity Program
EMCR Grant from NSW Health



A/Professor Jelena Rnjak-Kovacina

- Cardiovascular Research Capacity Program
EMCR Grant from NSW Health
- ARC Future Fellowship



A/Professor Steven Wise

- MTP connect Targeted Translation Research Accelerator grant
- Heart Foundation Future Leader Fellowship
- Heart Foundation Vanguard Grant

Congratulations: Grants and Awards



Dr. Yinghong Zhu



Dr. Iman Roohani

Young Investigator Award – TERMIS-AP 2021

Dr Yinghong Zhou is a Senior Research Fellow leading the Bone Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Dentistry research team at the Centre for Biomedical Technologies, Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

Yinghong seeks to understand the mechanisms for bone repair and regeneration, with a particular interest in stem cell-based therapy and biomaterial application. She has been awarded a prestigious NHMRC Early Career Fellowship (2016-2020) to investigate cell signalling cues involved in periodontal tissue regeneration, an Endeavour Research Fellowship (2017) for a collaborative project on cell transformation at Texas A&M University College of Dentistry, and a BridgeTech Program Fellowship (2021) to advance research towards commercialisation.

Dr Iman Roohani is a senior research fellow in the School of Life Sciences at the University of Sydney and visiting research fellow in the School of Chemistry at the University of New South Wales. He obtained his PhD in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Sydney followed by receiving the National Health and Medical Research early career fellowship in 2016. Dr Roohani's research interest is to understand how environmental factors regulate the function of musculoskeletal cells. This research underpins a more translational program aimed at developing novel tissue engineering and 3D bio/printing strategies to regenerate damaged and diseased musculoskeletal tissues. His research in the development of biomaterials for bone tissue regeneration has led to three awarded patents and one being commercialised. He is the inventor of a single-stage biofabrication technique (COBICS) to create a 3D heterogeneous bone-analogous microenvironment. Throughout his academic career, Dr Roohani has been the recipient of various international and national awards and served in editorial and mentorship roles. He has been a peer review committee member of the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and Australian Research Council (ARC) and several governmental funding bodies in Europe.



ARC CTET Training Centre for Cell & Tissue Engineering Technologies

CTET, the ARC Training Centre in Cell and Tissue Engineering Technologies, has officially been launched. This Centre, which was funded in 2019, has had to contend with completely unprecedented and unexpected circumstances in getting off the ground. These types of centres always take time getting organized, and CTET is no exception. With over 20 Industry Partners, who are also experiencing difficulties through lockdowns, and the new COVID-normal, CTET has worked to define a range of different projects. Almost all projects have been carefully planned and finalised, and CTET is currently seeking students and postdoctoral fellows for various areas of research. CTET has really considered the lifecycle of getting a product to market, and one of their research themes is entirely business based, looking at supply chain, business models and marketing strategies for cell therapies companies.

You can see more about CTET research from each of the Research Theme Leaders in the video on the website (<https://ctet.org.au/>).

Industry Partners with CTET come from a broad range of backgrounds. There are cell therapies companies, but there are also logistics and training partners for IP and communications. This will allow the Centre to provide training in a broad range of fields. As we know, there are not all that many academic career positions, while there are a large number of PhD graduates. PhD students now need to consider alternate careers to academia, and training centres provide world-class training to make industry-ready graduates. In addition to the current Partner Organisations, CTET is working with ReNerve, Cynata and Peter Mac on additional projects they are hoping to start.

CTET is a multidisciplinary centre, with Chief Investigators coming from across four faculties at Monash and four faculties at QUT. CTET is led by Monash Professor of Materials Engineering Laurence Meagher. Laurence has always had a close connection to industry, even through his postdoc career. He has said, "The Centre provides a fantastic opportunity to provide industry-centric training for this growing field." There are various projects in a range of different areas, looking at monitoring cell cultures, advanced materials and manufacturing and tissue engineering. CTET is currently recruiting Master and PhD students, and postdoctoral fellows in areas such as scaled cell manufacture, cell therapies to treat cancer, tissue engineering, and business and management of biotech industries.

CTET was officially launched on November 4 by Senator David Van, ARC CEO Professor Sue Thomas and Monash Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Senior Vice-President Professor Rebekah Brown.

Research themes

Four research themes will operate within the centre focused on specific industry needs.



Theme 1:
Engineering process
efficiencies



Theme 2:
Advanced materials and
manufacturing

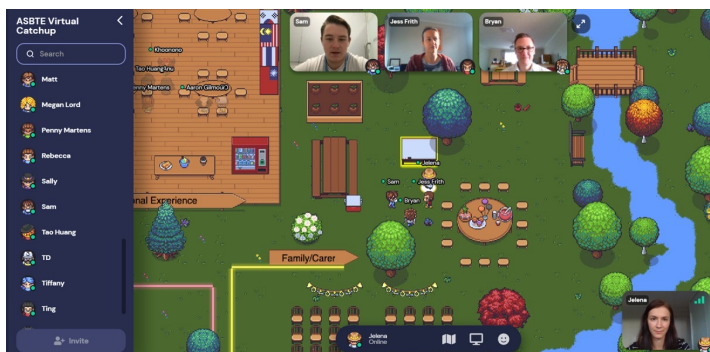


Theme 3:
Tissue
engineering



Theme 4:
Value chain and
commercialisation

Social event using Gather Town



The second half of 2021 saw Victoria and New South Wales in lockdown, and many of our ASBTE members live in those states. We wanted to support our members, so we organised a virtual get-together using Gather Town. The virtual space had games; provided the opportunity for members to catchup; and had several breakout areas on important topics including what happens after your PhD and postdoc, the benefits and difficulties associated with international research experiences, balancing work and life, and mental health. The 2-hour event was a big success, with more than 70 registrants. Given the great turnout, this event was clearly appreciated by the ASBTE membership.

Special thanks go to the organisers of the event: Daniel Heath, Samuel Maher, Dani Vahala, and Gretel Major; and the other volunteers including Matt Mail, Amy Gelmi, Tao Huang, Anu Sabu, Yu Suk Choi, Fatemeh Karimi, Jess Frith, and Jelena Rnjak-Kovachina.

Daniel Heath

ATA Scientific



LATEST TECHNOLOGIES FOR BIOMATERIALS RESEARCH

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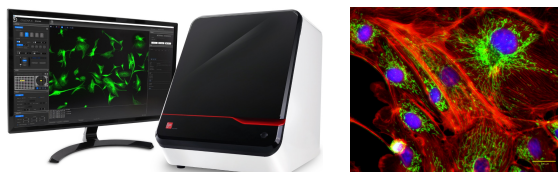


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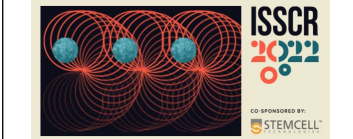



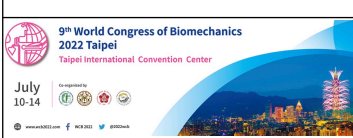

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Spotlight on Conferences

Conference	Dates	Location	Link
	8-10 Jan 2022	Honolulu, Hawaii	https://biomaterials.org/events-future-meetings/2022-hawaii-joint-symposium-sfb-jsb
	12-14 Jan 2022	Shanghai, China	https://www.isscr.org/meeting-s-events
	19-23 Feb 2022	San Francisco, USA	https://www.biophysics.org/2022meeting#/
	28 Feb – 2 Mar 2022	Boston, USA	https://www.isscr.org/meeting-s-events
	12-17 Jun 2022	Singapore	https://wc2022.org/
	15-18 Jun 2022	San Francisco, USA	https://www.isscr.org/meeting-s-events
	26-29 Jun 2022	Porto, Portugal	https://esbiomech2022.org/
	27-29 Jun 2022	Sydney, Australia	https://www.oznanomed.org/
	3-8 Jul 2022	Brisbane, Australia	https://www.raci2022.com/
	10-14 Jul 2022	Taipei, Taiwan	https://www.wcb2022.com/
	4-8 Sep 2022	Bordeaux, France	https://www.esbbordeaux2022.org/

Spotlight on Conferences

Conference	Dates	Location	Link
 TERMIS-AP 2022 JEJU, South Korea	5-8 Oct 2022	Jeju, Korea	https://www.termis.org/chapters-asia-pacific
 Additive Manufacturing of Soft Materials Gordon Research Conference August 7 - 12, 2022	7-12 Aug 2022	Ventura, USA	https://www.grc.org/additive-manufacturing-of-soft-materials-conference/2022/
 AuSMB Australian Society for Mechanobiology	6-9 Nov 2022	Sydney, Australia	https://ausmb.org/Mechanobiology2022.html

Website and social media

www.asbte.org

You can now sign up for **1, 2, or 3 year ASBTE Standard Membership** at <https://www.asbte.org/shop>

Any member wishing to supply news items, links, PhD scholarships, job listings, or other relevant information to the **website** should contact Jess Frith, jessica.frith@monash.edu

ASBTE on Twitter



The ASBTE handle **@ASBTE1** provides the latest news and discussions for society members. If you are on Twitter, use **@ASBTE1** to publicise your publications, awards, and grant successes that you want to share with the society members. Please follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ASBTE1>

ASBTE on LinkedIn



The ASBTE group on LinkedIn provides the latest news and discussions for society members. If you are a LinkedIn member, search for "ASBTE - The Australasian Society for Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering" in groups and request to join the group. Or type in the following web address: www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=6512061

ASBTE NEWS is a biannual newsletter that covers news from The Australasian Society for Biomaterials & Tissue Engineering. If you have a news item that you wish to be included please contact the editor Yu Suk Choi (yusuk.choi@uwa.edu.au) or Executive Officer Veronica Glattauer (veronica.glattauer@csiro.au).

2021 Dec issue edited by Yu Suk Choi