

## Report on the Event:

- Purpose of the event:

The Department of Bioengineering at Clemson University proposes hosted a Biomaterials Day with a focus on “Bionanotechnology: Integrating Nanostructures into Biomaterials” on October 10, 2012. This Biomaterials Day served as symposium to feature summer research by students carried out in Clemson University and other universities. We built on the previous success of the Biomaterials Day in Clemson University with 150 registered participants, 32 abstracts, and 4 participating companies in 2011.

The purpose of the event was to stimulate the students’ interests in novel avenues opened by nanotechnologies to pursue innovation in the field of biomaterials. Students interacted with professionals from academia, industry, and venture capitalist through keynote speeches, luncheon, panel discussion, and presenting their own research. We also used the research and technology aspects of this event as a networking opportunity for students and local biomaterials industry representatives and a recruitment opportunity for SFB membership.

- Number and names of universities and industry partners participating:

We had four universities from South Carolina participating such as Clemson, College of Charleston, University of South Carolina, and Furman University. We had two local companies participating such as Poly-Med Inc. and Hoowaki, llc.

- Event highlights:

The first highlight of the event was the two key note speakers on “Impact of nanotechnology on the commercial applications of biomaterials” with including Prof. Joel D Bumgardner (President of the Society for Biomaterials) and Prof. Kazuhiko Ishihara (President of the Japanese Society for Biomaterials). The second highlight of the event was the nine technology panel speakers on “Impact of nanotechnology on the commercial applications of biomaterials” with including Christopher Bettinger (MIT TR35 awardee 2011); Elizabeth Perpall (technology commercialization officer from the Clemson University Research Foundation); Robert Crutchfield (Venture Partner, Harbert Venture Partners), Andrew Cannon (Research and Development Manager; Hoowaki, llc.); David E. Huizenga (President and Chief Technology Officer SCTAO, A Division of Tao Life Sciences, Inc.); Michael Gara (Director, Research Awards, Wallace H. Coulter Foundation); Katina Dorton (Investment Committee, RTP Capital); Gregory Frank Zaic (General Partner, Nexus Medical & Technology Capital); and Greg Hillman (SC Launch Executive Director; SCRA Technology Ventures).

- Number of attendees

178 attendees

- Names of sponsors

Society For Biomaterials, Tissue Engineering SIG-Society For Biomaterials, and Department of Bioengineering (Clemson University)

- Name and contact information of organizers

**Organizer:** Frank Alexis, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Bioengineering  
Rhodes Research Center; #203A  
Clemson University  
Clemson, SC, 29634

**Program Chair:** Anthony Guiseppi-Elie, Sc.D.  
President and Scientific Director  
ABTECH Scientific, Inc.

- List of speakers

Undergraduate student oral presentations: S. Cole, C. Duncan, A. Farley

Graduate student oral presentations: O. Karunwi, G. Hilar, T. Moore

- Names of any awardees (student speakers, poster sessions, etc.)

Best undergraduate student poster presentation-SFB-Tissue Engineering: A. Farley

Best undergraduate student oral presentation-SFB: S. Cole

Best graduate student oral presentation-SFB: T. Moore

Best graduate student poster presentation-SFB-Tissue Engineering: S. Sivaraman

Best graduate student oral presentation-SFB-Tissue Engineering: A. Wilson

- Success Story:

The first success story is to have four different universities participating to the Biomaterials Day including the College of Charleston. It is the first time that these universities participated to the Clemson's Biomaterials Day. The second success story is to have two key note speakers whom are the leaders in the Society For Biomaterials.