

Report on Event: University of Florida Biomaterials Day 2013

The student chapter of the Society for Biomaterials at the University of Florida held its second Biomaterials Day on March 22nd, 2013 at the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom. The one day symposium consisted of a keynote address, speaker presentations from academia as well as industry representatives, poster sessions featuring the work of graduate and undergraduate students and an info session of career opportunities in the field of Biomaterials. The following report will highlight the purpose of Biomaterials Day, attendees, sponsors, speakers and success stories throughout the event.

Purpose of the event: The purpose of Biomaterials Day 2013 was to create a networking environment for all members of the biomaterials community, including faculty, students and industry representatives. The UF student chapter of SFB focused on promoting the interaction of leading scientists and developers in order to move the field forward.

Attendees: The majority of participants were from the University of Florida and included attendees from the following departments: Materials Science and Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Agricultural and Biological Engineering, Molecular Genetics and Microbiology and Chemistry. The dean of the College of Engineering was also present, as well as the Office of Licensing Technologies, Kimberly Clark Corporation, Nanotherapeutics, Vistakon, Biomet Microfixation and Bose-Electroforce. However, the highlight of this year's event was the participation of the University of Miami, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Carnegie Mellon who sent students and faculty to present their cutting edge research enhancing our goal of making this event a regional occurrence. Biomaterials Day 2013 had a total of 122 participants.

Event Highlights: As stated above, our major highlight included the participation of the University of Miami, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Carnegie Mellon who sent their students and faculty members of the Biomaterials community to share their cutting edge research. The event was opened by the Dean of the College of Engineering, Dr. Cammy Abernathy who was followed by the industry session highlighting the commercial use of biomaterials. This was followed by a graduate student poster session. The afternoon was filled with presentations from academia representatives, undergraduate students' poster session and the industry tabling information panel.

Sponsors: In addition to the grant received from the National Society for Biomaterials, financial support was received from the University of Florida Office of Research, Materials Science and Engineering department, J. Crayton Pruitt Family Department of Biomedical Engineering, Bose- Electroforce and Vistakon.

Speakers: The following speakers presented during Biomaterials Day 2013:

- Cammy Abernathy, College of Engineering Dean
- Joseph Decker, SFB UF student chapter president
- Scott Sidwell, Vice President of Research and Development at Biomet Microfixation
- Lenny Terry, Licensing Officer at UF Office of Technology Licensing
- Iris Schumacher, Customer Solutions Associate Marketing Manager for Kimberly Clark Corp.

- Ron Cobb, Vice-President of Biologics at Nanotherapeutics
- Adam Feinberg, Assistant Professor at Carnegie Mellon
- Carlos Rinaldi, Professor at the University of Florida
- Jennifer Andrew, Assistant Professor at the University of Florida
- Cherie Stabler, Associate Professor at the University of Miami

Student poster sessions and awards: There were two poster sessions throughout the day, one for graduate students and one for undergraduate students. There were a total of 25 students presenting with awards being given for best presentation to Stefan Kelly and David

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