



# WELCOME TO THE Society For Biomaterials 2022 Annual Meeting & Exposition

We would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending the Society For Biomaterials 2022 Annual Meeting & Exposition: The Perilous Fight to Translate Innovative Research to Commercial Viability.

In 1814, following a successful attack on Washington, DC, British warships fired a barrage of rockets on Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor. The relentless, 25-hour attack inspired Francis Scott Key to put pen to paper and the Star-Spangled Banner was born. More than two centuries later, the Society for Biomaterials will convene in Baltimore to engage in its own Perilous Fight to Translate Innovative Research to Commercial Viability requiring an extraordinary combination of people from a variety of disciplines. Clinicians, researchers, regulatory agencies, and students from academic research labs, medical device manufacturers, and operating rooms across the country and around the world will convene in Baltimore to discuss their latest research, form new collaborations, and be inspired by the work of their peers. This interdisciplinary gathering is a critical pathway to identifying issues with current technologies, and for translating academic research to clinical practice. We look forward to once again being able to educate, learn from, and collaborate across various scientific disciplines including materials science, biology, engineering and medicine for improving human health.

This year marks the Society For Biomaterials Annual Meeting & Expositions first in-person gathering since 2019. While COVID-19 prevented us from being together, increased vaccination rates, decreased infections and transition into the “new” normal has given us this exciting opportunity to once again meet with friends and colleagues, network with the biomaterials community and gather safely together! We remind you to wear a mask while attending all SFB functions indoors, unless actively eating or drinking.

In response to numerous, disturbing incidents highlighting the ongoing issues of racism, misogyny and other societal phobias, the Society For Biomaterials has continued to elevate its commitment to increasing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the STEM disciplines, especially in the field of biomaterials. This year’s program features a keynote presentation highlighting the link between DEI and innovation, sessions dedicated to Black & LatinX Voices in Biomaterials, and a variety of diverse attendee mixers. Diversity comes in many forms and SFB’s Annual Meeting & Exposition provides a welcome haven for the many different, unique individuals in the biomaterials field!

We would like to particularly thank the members of the Program Committee — Ashley C. Brown, Karen Christman, Michael Francis, Jamal Lewis, SuPing Lyu, Bill Murphy, Ana Maria Porras, LaShan Simpson, Jennifer Woodell-May, Guigen Zhang — for their efforts and guidance in creating an engaging conference program this year. We are also grateful to the numerous individuals who have worked to create each session, workshop, and panel, as well as those who dedicated time to reviewing abstracts. It is through this process that we are best able to highlight the most exciting scientific findings each year and we are therefore truly grateful for your efforts. Of course, we are especially appreciative of our generous sponsors and exhibitors, without whom this meeting would not be possible.

Finally, we would like to give our thanks to you, the attendees of the 2022 Annual Meeting & Exposition! You are the “flag-bearers” for this meeting as well as the biomaterials community and we sincerely hope that you find that the program inspires further connections to enable your own future directions.

Cherie Stabler, PhD, University of Florida  
*Program Committee Co-Chair*

Carl G. Simon, PhD, NIST  
*Program Committee Co-Chair*