

# SFB Student Chapter News

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

JULY, 2011

## Student Activities at 2011 Annual Meeting

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**Student events at SFB 2011 Annual Meeting.** Approximately 150 students attended the luncheon (left). Members from academia and industry were on hand to discuss their career experiences with students. Dr. Buddy Ratner poses with students at the Bash at Disney's Epcot theme park (right).  
*Photo credits: Becky Riedsel and Azadeh Goudarzi.*

The SFB 2011 Annual Conference and Exposition in Orlando, FL featured several student events including a career fair and student luncheon. The career fair was held on Thursday and featured representatives from 14 companies, national labs, and academic institutions. Representatives from industry also provided resume critiques and offered mock interviews. The hour-long event was allowed students to network with employers and identify companies that are hiring.

The student luncheon, held on Friday, focused on the topic "Exploring Alternative Careers in Biomaterials." The keynote speaker was Dr. Matthew Gevaert, co-founder and CEO of KIYATEC, a company specializing in 3D cell culture technology. Dr. Gevaert stated that his experience with academic intellectual property management, startups, and large companies taught him to never fear taking a previously unknown path in his career. His talk offered a jumping-off point for students to discuss about their careers with members from industry and academia, who were seated at each table.

Students also had a chance to mix, mingle, and have some fun at the Bash. The Bash this year was held at Disney's Epcot park, where students enjoyed a fireworks show and after-hours access to the park.

## National Student Chapter Officers Elected

As part of the Annual Meeting and Exposition in Orlando, new officers of the national student chapter were elected. The national student chapter helps coordinate local chapters and plans events at the annual meeting such as the student luncheon and career fair. The newly-elected officers are: Beth Pollot, (University of Texas at San Antonio), Tyler Remund (University of South Dakota), and Susan Stoebner (University of South Dakota). Congrats new to our new officers!



**SFB Student Officers '11-'12. (L to R)**  
Scott Cooper, Beth Pollot, and Susan Stoebner  
(Not shown: Vahid Serpooshan and Tyler Remund). *Photo credit: Azadeh Goudarzi.*

### 2011-2012 Officers

**President:** Scott Cooper  
[scottcooper@ufl.edu](mailto:scottcooper@ufl.edu)

**President-Elect:** Beth Pollot  
[bepollot@gmail.com](mailto:bepollot@gmail.com)

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Vahid Serpooshan  
[vserpooshan@yahoo.com](mailto:vserpooshan@yahoo.com)

**By-laws Chair:** Susan Stoebner  
[susan.stoebner@usd.edu](mailto:susan.stoebner@usd.edu)

**Secretary/Treasurer – Elect:** Tyler Remund  
[tyler.remund@usd.edu](mailto:tyler.remund@usd.edu)

# UT/UTHSC San Antonio Chapter News

**Group Activity  
Fall '10 -  
Skydiving!!!**



**BoneBank tour. We actually got to see them pulling tendons out of a human leg!**

Last semester we started providing industry tours for our members. We have been to several companies including FaceKey, BoneBank, Entrigue Surgical, and KCI. We have also set up Journal Club meetings and have at least 2 or 3 each semester. This gives our members a great way of learning about different fields in a fun atmosphere. Last semester our group activity was skydiving! Several of our members joined in and let me tell you it was definitely a bonding experience. We also have hopes of doing a cookout

this semester for our current members and to attract new ones!

This past month we were also able to set up a viewing of a cardiac surgery implanting a mitral valve clip made of a biomaterial! This really gave our members an idea of how surgeons use the materials that we make. We worked with Texas A&M to help set up their Biomaterials Day in May. We carpooled members from our society down there to support A&M and meet and greet our fellow biomaterials enthusiasts.

As far as community service goes, we have been at several events this year reaching out to kids ranging from middle school to high school to entering college! It is our hope that by showing them about biomaterials early, we will instill a passion for learning about and using biomaterials. Lastly, we have recently been working to raise funds for our society in the hopes of giving back to the community or providing a small scholarship. Needless to say, we have a lot going on!

Lauren Cornell  
Public Relations Officer

# Wake Forest University Chapter News

## Meeting & Social



The purpose of the Wake Forest University chapter of the Society For Biomaterials (SFB) is to encourage the interdisciplinary development, dissemination, integration and utilization of knowledge in biomaterials primarily among students, the Wake Forest University community, but also among other members in the field of biomedical and material sciences and research.

[www.inwake.com/sfb](http://www.inwake.com/sfb)

## Nanotechnology center tour



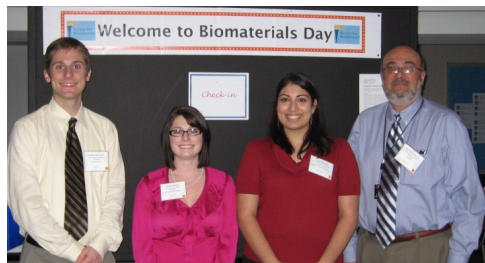
**Congrats to all of our new SFB student chapters!!! We are excited to have you and hope to stay connected with you during the next year.**

# University of Michigan Chapter News

Our student chapter was just recently formed in the spring of 2011. We helped to organize the Upper Midwest Biomaterials Day at U of M on May 12-13, 2011 with the help of two faculty co-chairs, Dr. David Kohn and Dr. Jan Stegemann, and generous sponsorship by SFB. Organizing a conference has given us an opportunity make connections within UM and around the region in academia and industry. Following this conference, we are looking forward to organizing more biomaterials-related events!

Melanie Gupte  
Secretary-Treasurer

# Case Western Reserve University Chapter News



**Biomaterials Day Organizers** (L to R) Chapter VP Andrew Shoffstall, Secretary Christa Modery, President Alyssa Master and faculty advisor Dr. Nick Zitas

The Case Western Reserve University chapter wanted to thank all the members, donors and participating schools that came to our student-organized conference: Biomaterials Day research symposium on November 6, 2010. Attendance included undergraduate students, graduate

students, professors and members of industry from 11 institutions. The day started with a keynote address from Dr. William Landis of The University of Akron followed by six breakout sessions in the morning and afternoon. The session topics Drug Delivery I, Drug Delivery II, Materials, Cell-Materials Interactions, Orthopedics, Tissue

Engineering/Nanotechnology and were comprised of over 50 oral presentations and 60 posters. The day also included a luncheon industry panel with individuals from Depuy Inc., Steris Corporation, Oakwood Laboratories, SDG Pharmaceuticals and ASM International. Students were able to ask questions and learn about possible careers in industry and how to best prepare themselves. We really appreciated the phenomenal participation and look forward to the next regional conference being planned by the University of Michigan!

Andrew Shoffstall  
Vice President

## U of Rochester & Kentucky & South Dakota

As for the University of Rochester Student Chapter of the Society for Biomaterials I am pleased to announce that we are now up and running! We are currently focused on spreading interest and gathering new members as we begin to structure our quarterly meetings. Already have plans in the works for a student night this spring.

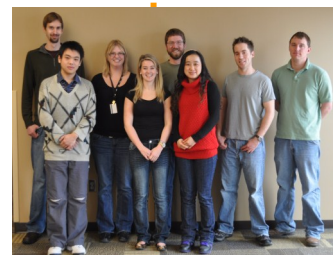
Michael Hoffman  
President

We were JUST officially accepted for starting our chapter with SFB about 2 weeks ago. Other than officer elections, and winning a travel award, we are just starting up with activities and meetings. The only thing we have is a website, but it is still in the works of being updated.

<http://sfb.engineering.uky.edu/>  
David Cochran  
Vice President

As the first President of the University of South Dakota Student Chapter of the Society for Biomaterials, I would like to announce our formation and acceptance into the organization in mid-February. Currently, our main focus as an organization is a journal club, but we look forward to informing our fellow students at USD about opportunities in the field of biomaterials.

Matthew Tanner  
President



**University of South Dakota student chapter**

## Columbia University Chapter News

The Columbia University chapter of the Society For Biomaterials organized a *Biotechnology Networking Session* which was held on February 21, 2011 in the university's historic Low Library. The event featured representatives from LifeCell, Covidien, NuVasive and L'Oreal Research & Development, who came to network with graduate students in the life sciences and

provided them with insight on research opportunities in industry. The event was well-received and attended by over 60 M.S. and Ph.D. students from a variety of disciplines, ranging from Earth and Environmental Engineering to the Biological Sciences. The Columbia SFB chapter aims to make the event an annual occurrence and hopes to attract a larger and more diverse

group of employers next year. More information regarding the event and additional photos are available on the chapter website

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/sfb/>  
Sid Subramony  
President



# University of Memphis Chapter News



## Biomaterials Day 2011

This past academic year, the University of Memphis SFB student chapter hosted Biomaterials Day 2011. With this event our goal was to increase collaborations between universities and companies that are interested in the field of biomaterials and biomaterials research by fostering networking and professional development. We had an overwhelming attendance of over 180 attendees. Ten universities were represented with 140 students and faculty attendees.

Additionally, over 40 biomedical industry representatives from Medtronic, Inc., Wright Medical Technology, Smith & Nephew, MB Venture Partners, Active Implants, Surmodics Pharmaceutical, Inc., Sandvik and Extremity Innovations were present at the day-long event.

The student chapter organized company tours of Gyrus Acmi-ENT and Smith & Nephew. We have also volunteered twice for Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center, Memphis, TN. In doing so, we interacted with patients and their families in the play rooms, making arts and crafts projects for the activities cart and passing them out to the children. The student chapter also volunteered in the renovation of a local elementary school, KIPP Diamond Academy, Memphis, TN, so that the children may have a safe and interactive environment to

study within. We have also had several social events including Laser Tag and Pizza Socials as well as a BBQ and Kickball Social for the SFB student member to socialize, have fun and relax.

We now have website which we are constantly updating with new information about our chapter.

<http://sites.google.com/site/>



**Kickball Social** (L to R): Heather Doty, Karen Sedacki and Lilia Rodriguez

## Congratulations to Chapters Receiving to the 2011 Annual Meeting!

- Case Western Reserve University
- University of Florida
- University of Kentucky
- University of Memphis

*Travel awards of \$500 are given to local chapters to increase student involvement at the annual meeting. If your chapter is interested, contact a national student chapter representative.*

Find the Society for Biomaterials on

- Facebook
- LinkedIn



To update your chapter on the SFB website, please contact Becky Riedesel:  
[rriedesel@ahint.com](mailto:rriedesel@ahint.com)

## Upcoming events

- **2012 World Biomaterials Congress**  
June 1-5, 2012, Chengdu, China
- **2012 SFB Fall Symposium**  
October 3-6, New Orleans, Louisiana
- **Student Conference Call**  
Fall semester, 2011

## DID YOU KNOW?

Students who have recently graduated can receive a discounted rate on SFB membership! The "Post-grad" membership rate is \$95/year less expensive than "active" member status and includes an online subscription to *JBMR*.