



## THE 17TH ISBR SYMPOSIUM

### ***"Cultivating Bio-Innovation for a Sustainable Future"***

**2 – 6 November 2025, Ghent, Belgium, at the Ghent ICC**

### ISBR News - December 2024

- Seasons Greetings
- Program overview
- Call for Proposals **\*\*\* Closed \*\*\***
- Call for abstracts and scholarships **\*\*\* Coming soon \*\*\***
- Call for Student Scholarships **\*\*\* Now open \*\*\***
- Deadlines
- Useful Links

**For detailed information please click here**

*Although 2024 has been an intermediate year between ISBR symposia, we have been very busy preparing for the next symposium (ISBR 2025) to make sure it is stimulating, relevant and engaging for all participants. As you can see from this newsletter, an exciting program is already taking shape, and we are very much looking forward to seeing you in Ghent in November 2025.*

*All of us at the ISBR wish you a safe and happy holiday season and send you our best wishes for the New Year.*



## Program Overview

The ISBR 2025 symposium will be held over four days, in the scenic city of Ghent, Belgium.

Under the overarching theme “**Cultivating Bio-Innovation for a Sustainable Future**”, ISBR 2025 will offer many opportunities for learning and networking through plenary sessions, parallel sessions, Pecha Kucha presentations, workshops, and poster sessions. Please refer to ISBR website for the ISBR 2025 **Program at a Glance**.

The ISBR 2025 website will continue to be updated, including information about confirmed Keynote and Plenary speakers, speaker titles and abstracts. Please refer to **Plenary Session Information** to learn more about the [confirmed Keynote](#) and [Plenary speakers](#)!

- **Plenary I: Advancing Public Understanding and Support for Bio-Innovation**
  - *Confirmed speakers:*
    - **Ms. Julie Borlaug - Keynote Speaker**, President of Borlaug Consulting and the Borlaug Foundation
    - **Mr. German Vighi**, Board member GeneSprout Initiative; KU Leuven Plant Institute
    - **Dr. Zach Adelman**, Professor, Entomology Department, Texas A&M University
- **Plenary II: Exploring Scientific Opportunities, Advancements, Benefits, and Challenges in Bio-innovation**
  - *Confirmed speakers:*
    - **Dr. Steven Reno - Keynote Speaker**, Professor of Molecular Biology at Kenyatta University
    - **Dr. Cathie Martin**, John Innes Centre
    - **Dr. Jean-Yves Paul**, Queensland University of Technology
    - **Dr. Clint Nesbitt**, Global Director of Regulatory and External Affairs; Genus PLC
    - **Ms. Shade Sabitu**, Director, Regulatory Science and Operations, Pivot Bio
- **Plenary III: Governance, Policy, and Regulatory Frameworks: Exploring the global landscape and impact on bio-innovation**
  - *Confirmed speakers:*

- **Dr. Rodomiro Ortiz - Keynote Speaker**, Professor and Chair of Genetics and Plant Breeding, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
  - **Dr. Olalekan Akinbo**, Professor and Head, Genome Editing Programme, African Union Development Agency - NEPAD
  - **Ms. Irene Sacristán Sánchez**, Head of Biotechnology Unit, DG SANTE, European Commission
  - **Ms. Bernadette Juarez**, Deputy Administrator for Biotechnology Regulatory Services, USDA
  - **Dr. Leandro Astarita**, Chair of the National Technical Commission on Biosafety (CTNBio), Brazil
  - **Dr. Lourdes Taylo**, Project Leader of the Bt Eggplant Project; University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB)
- **Plenary IV: Enhancing the potential of bio-innovation for a sustainable future**
    - *Confirmed speakers:*
      - **Dr. Carl Ramage - Moderator Panel Discussion**, Rautaki Solutions PTY LTD.
      - **Dr. Eric Andreasson**, Professor at the Department of Plant Protection Biology, Swedish University of Agricultural Studies
      - **Prof. Dr. Justus Wesseler**, Agricultural Economics and Rural Policy at Wageningen University, The Netherlands.

**\*\*\* Closed \*\*\***

## **CALL FOR PROPOSALS** to organize a Topic-Specific Parallel Session or Workshop

The call for proposals to organize a Topic-Specific Parallel Session and Workshops at ISBR 2025 is **now closed !!!**

Many quality proposals have been received and are being peer-reviewed by the ISBR 2025 Scientific Program Committee.

Chairs of accepted proposals will be notified soon. The title and abstract of accepted proposals will be published on the symposium website in January 2025.

## **Call for ABSTRACTS for oral presentations or posters**

It is never too early to start planning!

The **Call for Abstracts** will open on **January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025** and will close on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**\*\*\* Now OPEN \*\*\***

## **Call for SCHOLARSHIP Applications**

With the help of a generous sponsorship from the Agricultural Biotechnology Stewardship Technical Committee (ABSTC), ISBR will offer several student scholarships to support student participation at the symposium. Scholarships will cover ISBR Registration, as well as support student accommodation and travel.



Scholarship Applications are due **March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025**.

Details and guidance on how to apply are posted on the ISBR website [Student Scholarship page](#).

## Call for SPONSORSHIP

This ISBR symposium is funded entirely by sponsorships and registration fees. Without sponsorship, this symposium is not sustainable! We need you!

A wide range of **sponsorship opportunities** are available to fit your sponsorship budget and goals. There are many ways you can support the scientific, social and cultural aspects of the symposium

Please review the full **Sponsorship Prospectus** and consider sponsoring this great event.

## Deadlines - Important dates to diarise

	Opening Date	Closing Date
<b>Open call</b> - Topic-specific parallel sessions	<b>*** CLOSED ***</b>	Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
<b>Open call</b> - Workshops	<b>*** CLOSED ***</b>	Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
<b>Open Call</b> - Student scholarships	<b>*** NOW OPEN ***</b> December 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	March 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
<b>Open Call</b> – Abstracts for oral presentations and posters	January 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	April 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
Early Bird Registration	Information coming soon	
Regular Registration	Information coming soon	
ISBR Photo Contest	Information coming soon	

[For detailed information please click here](#)

**Please feel free to share this newsletter with all your contacts!!**



## Useful Links

[PROGRAM AT A GLANCE](#)

[RELEVANT TOPICS](#)

[STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS](#)

For further information email us at [admin@isbr.info](mailto:admin@isbr.info)  
or follow us by clicking on the icons below



International Society for Biosafety Research (ISBR) | 1900 L Street, NW, Suite 302 |  
Washington, DC 20036 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!