

INFORMATION REGARDING AWARDS

Best Student Poster Competition - Current SDB graduate and undergraduate student members in good standing (2012 dues paid in time to be included in the membership database **before** abstract submission) who wish to participate in the Best Poster Competition **must check the appropriate box** on the online abstract form **at submission**. Post submission requests will not be accepted. Late Abstracts are **not** eligible for poster competition.

Best Postdoctoral Presentation Award - Chosen from the eight talks selected for the Postdoctoral Symposium. The winner will receive travel assistance for up to \$1,500 to attend a short course or a meeting from a pre-approved list.

Student/Postdoc Travel Awards - Current (2012 membership dues paid **before** abstract submission and meeting registration) **student** (undergraduate and graduate) and **postdoctoral** members of SDB who are first authors of a submitted abstract may request funds to offset their travel expenses to the meeting. The number of awards and the amount for each award will depend on the number of applications received and available funding. Completed application form must be submitted by the close of business **April 16, 2012** (5 PM East Coast Daylight Saving Time). Notification of awards will be in early June.

Latin American-Caribbean Student and Faculty Scholarships - This merit-based Latin American-Caribbean Scholarship Program was established in 2000 for students and faculty members who are currently at institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean. SDB membership is not a requirement, but all other things being equal, preference will be given to SDB members over non-members. Candidate for either of the two types of scholarships must be an author of an abstract submitted for the Meeting. Student applicants must be the first author of the abstract. Faculty applicants may be the senior author of an abstract. Selection criteria for both scholarships are based on: (1) scientific soundness of the study as described in the abstract, (2) financial need, including availability of other support, e.g. from the advisor and/or home institution. Six scholarships at \$2,000 each are available. Deadline for receipt of applications was **March 26, 2012** (5 PM East Coast Daylight Saving Time). Recipients will be notified in late April.

Teaching Faculty Travel Grants - This program aims to provide modest travel assistance (\$600 each) for faculty at primarily teaching institutions or teaching departments at research universities to present their research and/or education papers. Applicants must be **current** SDB members (2012 dues paid in time to be included in the membership database **before** abstract submission) and authors of a submitted abstract. This abstract may be of their own or their student's work. Completed application form and a copy of the abstract must be submitted by the close of business **April 16, 2012** (5 PM East Coast Daylight Saving Time). Recipients will be notified in early June.

FASEB/MARC Program Travel Awards for Faculty and Students - The FASEB/MARC (Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology / Minority Access to Research Careers) Program provides funding for travel awards to support the participation of Faculty/ Mentors and Students, and Poster/Oral Presenters at SDB Annual Meetings. For eligibility, application forms and deadlines please go to: <http://marc.faseb.org/pages/page2a.htm>.

INFORMATION REGARDING BEST STUDENT POSTER COMPETITION

Eligibility requirements:

1. The **first/presenting** author must be a **current SDB member** and be an undergraduate or a graduate student.
2. The author must check the Best Student Poster Competition box on the online abstract submission form when submitting the abstract. This box is only available to student members who are in the membership database. Membership renewal takes 2 (two) business days to process. New membership applications are reviewed mid and end of each month. Please allow enough time for processing before submitting your abstract by the deadline. Late abstracts are not eligible for this competition.

Guidelines for evaluating the posters:

Depending on the number of submissions, the judges may need to do a preliminary selection based on the quality of the abstracts. It is thus highly recommended that the abstracts be as informative and with as much data as possible. Statements such as "data to be presented and discussed" will not score high. Below are criteria for evaluating the posters which may be helpful in preparing your presentation.

1. Quality of Science:
 - Logic and rationale for study
 - Documentation of results
 - Quantification
 - Conclusions appropriate from the data
 - References cited where necessary
2. Impact on the field
3. Innovativeness of approach
4. Usefulness of a new technique
5. Appropriateness of the study organism for addressing the questions
6. Clarity of presentation and ease of reading
7. Number of authors on the paper
8. The intellectual input of the first author (judged in part by talking to the author and in part by analysis of other posters from the same laboratory).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EFFECTIVE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

1. The poster board size is approximately 4 ft (height) by 6 ft (width) or 1.2 m by 1.8 m.
2. A label with the abstract program number (to be provided on the program assignment email at a later date), title, authors, and affiliations should be posted at the top of the poster board.
3. Charts, drawings, illustrations and text should be easy to read from about a 3 ft (1 m) distance.
4. Check spelling and abbreviations.
5. Post a copy of your abstract (original or corrected, as appropriate).
6. Do not overload the poster board.
7. If necessary, use numbers, letters or arrows to direct sequence of panels on the board.
8. Do not draw or write on the poster boards.
9. List the funding sources that supported the study.

References:

“How to create a poster that graphically communicates your message” Kathryn Tosney.

<http://www.bio.miami.edu/ktosney/file/PosterHome.html>

“Combating Poster Fatigue: How to Use Visual Grammar and Analysis to Effect Better Visual Communication.” John D. Woolly. *Trends in Neuroscience* 12 (9):325-333, 1989.