

Research Biobank of the Year - 2013 Call for Entries



Overview

The 2013 “Research Biobank of the Year” competition is being organized by the European, Middle-Eastern and African Society for Biopreservation and Biobanking (ESBB). The competition has been initiated and coordinated by ESBB’s working group ESBBtranslate¹, and is intended to promote outstanding biobank services for research.

There will be two categories in the competition: (1) Biobanks for human samples; (2) Biobanks for biological and environmental samples.

Proposals will be evaluated and short-listed by an independent jury of international experts. At ESBB’s annual conference in Verona, Italy, October 9 – 11, 2013, the top-ranked biobanks in each category will be presented for the final vote by ESBB members.

ESBB herewith announces the call for entries. The closing date for receipt of entries will be the 1st July, 2013.

Eligibility

The contest is open to Biobanks for Research Purposes, situated in Europe, the Middle-East and Africa. These may be biobanks for human samples or non-human biological and environmental samples. The biobanks may be in either public or private settings.

Applicants must provide **proof of registration** for the ESBB meeting in Verona, October 2013, by the deadline of submission (July 1st, 2013).

Application Procedure

Written applications (DIN A4, Arial, 11 pt.) of maximum 6 pages (including figures and tables) must be prepared as pdf-files. Applicants shall provide information on their biobank’s:

- 1) Quality (material and operations)
- 2) Transparency (outreach activities and donor relations)
- 3) Usage (sample turnover)
- 4) Connectivity (integration into biobank networks and trans-institutional infrastructure)
- 5) Innovation (innovative solutions for any kind of biobank-related problems)
- 6) Sustainability (outline of business model)

Applications must be submitted with a letter from the biobank representative. These documents must be sent by email to admin@esbb.org and must be received by the 1st July 2013. They will be acknowledged directly by email reply.

In addition, applicants are invited to submit an abstract for a poster presentation on their biobank at the ESBB meeting in Verona. The abstract should be submitted in the *Resource Development* section. Please see instructions at: <http://www.esbb.org/verona/abstracts.html>

¹ <http://www.esbb.org/translate.html>

Judging Procedure

The jury will establish and use a scoring system for both biobank categories (medical research and enviro-bio), and they will also consider a biobank's "uniqueness" / long-term impact on society for their decision-making. Short-lists of the top-ranked applicants of each category will be presented by a jury member at the ESBB Conference in Verona.

Proposals must be received by the 1st July, 2013. The jury will decide on short-lists by end of August, and in September 2013 short-listed biobanks will be invited for short presentations in the Society Forum session of the ESBB conference on October 11, 2013. The winners in each category will then be identified over the electronic voting system by the ESBB members present.

For further questions, please contact either:

Christina Schroeder - Christina.Schroeder@ibmt.fraunhofer.de

or Robert Hewitt - hewitt.r@sfr.fr

Award

The winner in each of the categories will be presented with a Challenge Cup donated by ESBB's Platinum Sponsor. Details of the award winning biobanks will be communicated via the ESBB website and newsletters.

CS & RH, 26/04/201