Sponsor Prospectus

School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences

14th Annual Graduate Student Research Symposium

May 13, 2015

Skelton Conference Center
The Inn at Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, Virginia
The Virginia Tech – Wake Forest University Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) Student Chapter hosts an annual Graduate Student Research Symposium to provide students with the opportunity to interact and exchange research ideas with colleagues and industry leaders. This symposium promotes research collaboration between the two campuses and cutting edge facilities, such as the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine, the Comprehensive Cancer Center of Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, the Virginia – Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, and the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine.

This event is 100% dependent on corporate sponsorship. Through a corporate sponsorship of the Symposium you will have the unique opportunity to support and attend this collaborative event and contribute to the development of future leaders in the biomedical engineering community. Please consider the enclosed information about the Symposium and the benefits of each sponsorship level.

We look forward to confirming your attendance at this exciting meeting this Spring.

Sincerely,

The VT-WFU Biomedical Engineering Society Executive Officers

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Patrick Thayer  Laura Reese  Allison Pekkanen  Vanessa Alphonse
Tanner Hill    Nicholas Vavalle  Matthew Davis  Jillian Urban
Presidents    Vice Presidents  Treasurers  Secretaries

For more information about the VT-WFU BMES Student Chapter, please visit us at www.sbes.vt.edu/bmes/
Sponsorship Opportunities

We invite you to consider sponsorship of the 2014 Graduate Student Research Symposium. Sponsorship opportunities and benefits are listed below:

**Presenting Sponsor***

$5,000 and above
Podium presentation of company mission and research opportunities
Large logo on front page of program
Exhibit space

* Largest commitment secures the Named Student Symposium

**Sustainers**

$2,000 - $4,999
Medium logo on front page of program
Exhibit space

**Contributors**

Up to $1,999
Small logo on front page of program
Exhibit space

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**Instructions for Donations:**

Donations in the form of checks may be sent to the address noted below. Please make checks payable to “VT-WFU BMES Student Chapter”. We ask that you place a note on the memo line of the check to read “SBES Symposium”. Mail to:

VT-WFU BMES Student Chapter
Attn: Beverly Wright
575 N. Patterson Ave, Suite 120
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Donations may also be made online at the link below:

[https://www.wakehealth.edu/OnlineGift.htm](https://www.wakehealth.edu/OnlineGift.htm)

Please select the Gift Designation as ‘School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences (2521)’

For any questions, please contact Dr. Aaron Mohs (336-713-1326, amohs@wakehealth.edu) or Dr. Christopher Rylander (540-231-0964, cgr@vt.edu).

We extend our sincere thanks with regards to your consideration.

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Previous sponsors of the Graduate Student Research Symposium

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Graduate Student Research Symposium May 15, 2014
JP McQuilling (Left) and Hannah Baker (Right) have been awarded Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Institutional Research Training Grants (T32) from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This award is given as the primary means of supporting JP and Hannah’s predoctoral research training. The objective of the T32 program is to prepare qualified individuals for careers that have a significant impact on the health-related research needs of the Nation.

Along with Dr. Emmanual Opara, JP is working to develop encapsulating insulin-producing cells inside a thin membrane that may one day offer a new treatment for diabetes. With this strategy, donor cells could be used to provide insulin control for patients. The membrane allows oxygen and nutrients to enter the capsule, but would prevent a rejection response.

In the Dr. George Christ Lab, Hannah’s research involves the ongoing development of a tissue engineered skeletal muscle repair construct. Specifically, her work has entailed the investigation of porous aligned silk scaffolds in a rat model of volumetric muscle loss injury. Their research is funded by the Armed Forces Institute for Regenerative Medicine (AFIRM) which aims to develop technologies for treatment of severely wounded warriors.
125 students and faculty in attendance at the symposium
20 oral presentations from graduating Ph.D. and M.S. students
50 poster presentations from non-graduating students

Topics include *injury and musculoskeletal biomechanics*, *biomedical imaging*, *cell and tissue engineering*, and *nanotechnology for medical applications*.

“The SBES symposium provides a unique opportunity to learn about the research of our fellow classmates, leading to rewarding conversations and even collaborations. It is one of the highlights of the SBES program that I’ve been fortunate to attend for the last three years!”

-Emma Moran
WFU Regenerative Medicine

“The SBES Symposium is a great opportunity to network with industry and learn about the exciting research the other graduate students are working on.”

-Bryan Cobb
VT Biomechanics

“After attending my first SBES Symposium, I was excited and motivated by the graduating MS and PhD student presentations. I think this is a unique opportunity for our joint graduate program to come together and share our work.”

-Elizabeth Davenport
WFU Medical Imaging