



## THE 17TH ISBR SYMPOSIUM

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

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

### ISBR News - August 2024

- Program overview
- Call for Proposals **\*\*\* EXTENDED DEADLINE \*\*\***
- Open call for abstracts and scholarships
- Deadlines
- Useful Links

For detailed information please click here

### 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**, Department of Biochemistry,

- Microbiology and Biotechnology | Kenyatta University
- **Dr. Cathie Martin**, John Innes Centre
- **Dr. James Dale** or **Dr. Jean-Yves Paul**, Queensland University of Technology
- **Dr. Clint Nesbitt**, Global Director of Regulatory and External Affairs; Genus PLC
- **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, Directorate of Agriculture, Food Security and Environmental Sustainability, African Union Development Agency (AUDA-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**, President Comissão Técnica Nacional de Biossegurança (CTNBio)
    - **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.

**\*\*\* EXTENDED DEADLINE\*\*\***

**\*\*\* DUE DECEMBER 15th \*\*\***

## **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 has been **EXTENDED!!!**

Proposing and chairing a Topic-Specific Parallel Session or Workshop gives you a valuable opportunity to contribute to the scientific content of the program. Proposals should be related to **Relevant Topics**, Plenary Themes, and the overarching ISBR 2025 symposium theme “Cultivating Bio-Innovation for a Sustainable Future”.

Please refer to ISBR website for additional information about the **Call for Proposals**, including information about requirements and guidelines, and links to Proposal Submission Forms.

**Do not delay – Proposals are due December 15 th, 2024!**

# Information about 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 15th, 2025.

## Call for SCHOLARSHIPS

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.

The **call will open on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Details and further guidance on how to apply will be available soon.



## 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	August 15th, 2024	*** Extended Deadline *** December 15th, 2024
- <b>Open call</b> - Workshops	August 15th, 2024	*** Extended Deadline *** December 15th, 2024
- <b>Open call</b> - Student scholarships	December 15th, 2024	March 15th, 2025
- <b>Open call</b> - Abstracts for oral presentations and posters	January 15th, 2025	April 15th, 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](#)

[CALL FOR PROPOSALS](#)

For further information email us at [admin@isbr.info](mailto:admin@isbr.info)  
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