

## Supporting Information

### About the competition

The AusBiotech-GSK Student Excellence Awards aim to recognise and encourage promising research students and to raise awareness of research translation and applications.

These awards are open to students studying in any Australian University (see eligibility and participation criteria below). One student winner (state winner) is chosen from each state and receives a ticket to attend the AusBiotech 2011 Conference. Here the state winners will compete for the national title.

### About the prizes

- There will be six (6) state winners<sup>1</sup> in 2011.
- State Winners will be flown<sup>2</sup> to the AusBiotech 2011 Conference to be held in Adelaide 16 - 19 October 2011 ([www.ausbiotech2011.com.au](http://www.ausbiotech2011.com.au)).
- Each state winner will be offered free registration, economy airfare and accommodation for three nights<sup>3</sup>; this prize will also include AusBiotech student membership for one year.
- At the conference, each state winner will be required to present their application to the national judging panel in an open session.
- One of the six state winners will win the national title.
- There will be one (1) national winner in 2011; the national winner will be announced at the opening ceremony of the AusBiotech 2011 Conference, Monday 17 October 2011. The prize will include a \$7,000 travel grant to be used by the student to present his/her research at an international conference (conditions apply) and a \$2,000 research grant to be used by the student's principal supervisor.

### Eligibility and participation

The competition is open to all current life science, biology, biotechnology or bioengineering students of any Australian University; PhD candidates are encouraged to apply. The applicant's principal supervisor must be affiliated with a university department, research institute or CSIRO that is a current, financial member of AusBiotech. Previous winners are ineligible to apply.

#### *Applicants must:*

- Have their supervisor's written permission, as indicated in the application form.
- Be available to present their application (pitch) in person to the state-based judging panel in an open session<sup>4</sup> between Thursday 15 September 2011, Friday 16 September and Monday 19 September 2011.

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<sup>1</sup> Applicants from NT will be included in the WA category and applicants from the ACT will be included in the NSW category.

<sup>2</sup> The SA State Winner will not receive airfares but will receive conference registration.

<sup>3</sup> Additional expenses including airport transfer and additional costs incurred over and above accommodation costs will be at winner's own costs.

<sup>4</sup> Confidentiality forms will not be issued by AusBiotech Ltd. It is the responsibility of the applicant to discuss their application with their technology transfer office.

- Be available to present their application in person to the national judging panel in Adelaide on Sunday 16 October 2011.
- Be available to accept the award on Monday 17 October 2011.

## Judging criteria

### *Written application*

- Quality of technical content (60%)
- Explanation of research translation/application or potential commercial application (20%)
- Written communication skills (20%)

### *Oral presentation*

- Quality of technical content (40%)
- Relevance of research translation/application and/or potential commercial application (20%)
- Presentation skills and keeping to time (20%)
- Ability to answer questions (20%)

## Key dates

Thurs 25 August	Applications open online
Mon 12 Sept	Applications close
Thur 15 – Mon 19 Sept	State-based judging panel will shortlist three or four state finalists
Thur 22 Sept	Shortlisted finalists announced.
Mon 3 Oct	State winners announced nationally
Sun 16 October	National finals are held in Adelaide
Mon 17 October	National winner announced at AusBiotech11 Opening Ceremony

## How to apply

1. Download the application form from the AusBiotech website ([www.ausbiotech.org/studentexcellenceawards](http://www.ausbiotech.org/studentexcellenceawards)).
2. Discuss applying with your supervisor and your technology transfer representative (if relevant).
3. Your application must be submitted electronically to the National ABSA Coordinator by close of business Monday 12 September 2011;
4. The state finalists will be announced on Thursday 22 September 2011.
5. The state winner will be notified by AusBiotech of the outcome and have their winning abstract posted on the AusBiotech website.

### *Application details*

Your application must be typed, hand written applications will not be accepted.

Please send two copies of your application to: [mprusa@ausbiotech.org](mailto:mprusa@ausbiotech.org) . The first copy should be in Microsoft Word format (2007 or earlier is ok) and should include pages 1-3 of the application. The second copy should be in PDF format and should include the whole application (pages 1 – 4 and most importantly include the signatures within the application declaration section (i.e. page 4)).

Use the following naming convention (please use upper and lower case and NOT all uppercase): **state\_lastname\_firstname\_WORD** (for example, SA\_Smith\_John\_WORD) for the first copy of the application. And use **state\_lastname\_firstname\_PDF** (for example, SA\_Smith\_John\_PDF) for the second copy of your application.

Both copies of your application should be sent within (attached) one email to Misha Prusa [mprusa@ausbiotech.org](mailto:mprusa@ausbiotech.org)

You will receive a return acknowledgement email within two weeks. If you do not receive an acknowledgement within two weeks of lodgment, please contact the AusBiotech via email [mprusa@ausbiotech.org](mailto:mprusa@ausbiotech.org) to ensure that your application has been received.

### **Further information**

For further details please contact Misha Prusa, Caretaker National ABSA Coordinator [mprusa@ausbiotech.org](mailto:mprusa@ausbiotech.org) .