

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 2010 Conference. Here the state winners will compete for the national title.

About the prizes

- There will be six (6) state winners¹ in 2010.
- State Winners will be flown² to the AusBiotech 2010 Conference to be held in Melbourne 19 - 22 October 2010 (www.ausbiotech2010.com.au).
- Each state winner will be offered free registration, economy airfare and accommodation for three nights³; this prize will also include AusBiotech student membership for one year.
- At the conference, each state winner will be required to display a poster of their winning application and present their application to the national judging panel.
- One of the six state winners will win the national title.
- There will be one (1) national winner in 2010; the national winner will be announced at the opening ceremony of the AusBiotech 2010 Conference. 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 and the supervisor **do not** need to be members of AusBiotech to enter. 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 between Monday 13 September 2010 and Friday 1 October 2010.
- Be available to present their application in person to the national judging panel in Melbourne on Tuesday 19 October.
- Be available to accept the award on Wednesday 20 October.

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

² The VIC State Winner will not receive airfares but will receive accommodation and conference registration.

³ Additional expenses including airport transfer will be at winner's own costs.

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

Wed 26 May	Applications open online
Fri 13 August	Applications close
16 August – 31 August	State- based judging panel will shortlist three or four state finalists
Fri 3 September	Shortlisted finalists announced.
13 September – 1 st October	State finals are held whereby the short-listed finalists are invited to present (pitch) their application.
7 October	State winners announced
Tues 19 October	National finals are held in Melbourne
Wed 20 October	National winner announced at AusBiotech10 Opening Ceremony

How to apply

1. Download the application form from the AusBiotech website (www.ausbiotech.org/studentexcellenceawards).
2. Discuss applying with your supervisor.
3. Your application must be submitted electronically to the National ABSA Coordinator by close of business Friday 13 August 2010;
4. The state finalists will be announced on Friday 3 September 2010.
5. State finalists will be invited to give a 10 minute “pitch” of their application (using powerpoint slides) from the week beginning 13 September 2010; Note that the judging panel may include representatives from both academia and industry or from industry only.
6. 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: obushi@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, that is 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 Olgatina Bushi (obushi@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 obushi@ausbiotech.org to ensure that your application has been received.

Further information

For further details please contact Olgatina Bushi, National ABSA Coordinator obushi@ausbiotech.org.