The Society for Biomaterials Student Chapter at North Carolina State University organized our third annual Biomaterials Day on Friday, October 25, 2019 at the James B. Hunt Jr. Library at NC State University. This year’s event had 123 people registered online and approximately 90 attendees on the day of the event.

The welcome address was given by Dr. David Hinks, Dean of the Wilson College of Textiles at NC State University. We had three invited speakers this year; unlike the previous year, this year’s event had three invited speakers rather than four. This was done in order to allow for greater student participation during the oral presentation sessions.

Our first invited speaker, Dr. Joel Collier from Duke University, spoke about supramolecular immunomodulators during the session “Biomaterials for Medical and Pharmacological Applications.” He was followed by three presentations from graduate students and postdoctoral scholars from the Biomedical Engineering department at NC State and the Division of Pharmacology at UNC Chapel Hill.

Our second session, entitled “3D Printing and Manufactured Materials,” was headlined by Dr. Shay Soker from the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine, who spoke about his work in developing 3D printed organoids for regenerative medicine applications. Dr. Soker’s presentation was followed by three graduate student presentations from students in
Dr. Kevin Ramer, a senior scientist at Biogen, gave our third invited talk of the day during the session “Development and Commercialization of New Technologies.” Dr. Ramer spoke about his work at Biogen in developing methods of using electrical capacitance to measure quantities of mammalian cells when developing cell-based technologies in biomanufacturing. His talk was followed by three oral presentations from graduate students in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at NC State and UNC Chapel Hill.

This year, Biomaterials Day attracted 23 student presenters. We had nine oral presentations (4 more than the previous year) and 14 poster presentations. We were also able to increase the representation from a greater variety of departments and institutions during the presentations over the past two years. Awards for best oral presentations were given to Jasmine King from the Division of Pharmacology at UNC, Andreea Badileanu from Biomedical Engineering at NC State, and Fan Zhang from the Wilson College of Textiles at NC State. Awards for best poster presentations were given to Ariana Frey and Kimberly Nellenbach from Biomedical
Engineering at NC State and to Karl Schuchard from the Fitts Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at NC State.

Closing remarks were given by Dr. Martin W. King. We expressed a thank you to all of our attendees and speakers, as well as to our judges: Drs. Yevgeny Brudno, Ashley Brown, and David Zaharoff from Biomedical Engineering, Dr. Rohan Shirwaiker from the Fitts Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering, and Drs. Jessica Gluck and Martin W. King from the Wilson College of Textiles. We also expressed a thank you to our sponsors: ATEX Technologies, Inc., The Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering at UNC and NC State, the Society for Biomaterials, and the North Carolina Biotechnology Center. The officers of the Student Chapter of SFB at NC State would also like to thank all of the volunteers whose efforts helped the event run smoothly. We look forward to continued growth and success in the coming year and for our next Biomaterials Day in 2020.

Officers of the Student Chapter of the Society for Biomaterials at North Carolina State University:

Seema Nandi, President
Zachary Davis, Vice President
Xiaotang Cheng, Secretary
Biyue Liu, Treasurer