**Registration**

Conference registration is open with reduced rate for members, in addition to the early birsd rate - book your ticket here <<https://linkedin.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0404c4c457f8c8b95ee4791f0&id=cd78283382&e=d2b58422b4>>

If you are not a member then why not join now <<https://linkedin.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0404c4c457f8c8b95ee4791f0&id=71f6bb14fd&e=d2b58422b4>> , it only costs £8 per year or free for students!

Exhibition Opportunities

If you are interesting in exhibiting at the conference or sponsorship opportunities please see here <<https://linkedin.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0404c4c457f8c8b95ee4791f0&id=0ff2ca45dc&e=d2b58422b4>>  for more details.

Call for abstracts

The ESACT-UK organising committee will review the applications and select candidates for a full presentation (dependent on abstract being relevant to cell culture, committee decision is final). This year we are looking to maintain the increased proportion of early researchers in the scientific programme, so if you are an early career researcher (within 7 years of completing a BSc) and would like to present your work, please submit a high quality scientific abstract for oral or poster presentation to Pete & Hirra <mailto:secretary@esactuk.org.uk?subject=Pete%20%26%20Hirra>

Where relevant, please can you circulate within your department – don’t miss out on this great opportunity to showcase your group’s work at this well attended, established meeting.

Deadline for abstracts has been extended to Friday 11 November 2022

All attending early career researchers will be eligible for the prize for the best presentation (£500 bursary for an event of their choice) and best poster (£250 bursary for an event of their choice).

The early stage researcher must be a member of ESACT-UK, but it is free to join for students <<https://linkedin.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0404c4c457f8c8b95ee4791f0&id=dc83520605&e=d2b58422b4>> . <<https://linkedin.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0404c4c457f8c8b95ee4791f0&id=e04d3b13d5&e=d2b58422b4>>

Chris Hewitt Rising Star Award

ESACT-UK is pleased to announce that nominations for the Chris Hewitt Rising Star Award are now open.  The award recipient will be a promising early career scientist or engineer whose work shows exceptional promise in the field of animal cell technologies.  The award recipient will be announced at the January 2023 conference and be invited to present at our January 2024 conference. They will also receive free lifetime ESACT-UK membership.

Chris was a leading biochemical engineer, recognised for his research using flow cytometry and cell sorting to understand the interaction of the cell with the bioreactor environment within diverse systems,  including animal cell culture. The last 10 years or so of his career were focussed on growing the UKs capacity in bioprocessing of human cells for cell therapy.  In recognition of his achievements, he was elected Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 2018 and was awarded the IChemE’s Donald Medal in the same year.

Chris was an active member of ESACT-UK and a strong supporter of early career researchers, having been involved in the founding of the Centre for Doctoral Training in Regenerative Medicine and mentoring a number of post-doctoral researchers and early career lecturers over the years. He has been greatly missed in the community since he passed in July 2019 and this award has been established in his honour.

Eligibility:  Any person with 10 years of relevant experience or less (total, excluding career breaks) working in the field of animal cell technologies is eligible so long as they have worked for a significant portion in the UK or with a UK organisation. The community is invited to nominate individuals who they feel meet these criteria by completing the nominations form. You can also self-nominate.

Submission of nominations: Nomination forms should be sent to: Hirra Hussain at secretary@esactuk.org.uk<mailto:secretary@esactuk.org.uk>  with the subject line “nomination for Chris Hewitt Rising Star Award” no later than Friday 11 November 2022.

Assessment process: Nominations will be checked for eligibility and all eligible candidates taken forward to a judging panel consisting of two ESACTUK committee members and at least two others external to the committee.  Each judge will score against the following criteria: the nominees outstanding contribution to the field of animal cell technology for someone at their career stage, how they are national ambassador for the field, their potential to create impact. Successful candidates will be informed by the end of December 2022.

Bursaries for other conferences

ESACT-UK would also like to support our early career researchers through the award of bursaries that assist them in attending other relevant scientific conferences.  These bursaries will be awarded competitively to cover part of the cost of registration, travel and accommodation only.  They are a gift from ESACT-UK and you will not have to pay it back and no other grants will be reduced if you receive one.

Details on the bursaries and application form can be found on the website <<https://linkedin.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0404c4c457f8c8b95ee4791f0&id=c54a431a0a&e=d2b58422b4>>  - please return to secretary@esactuk.org.uk<mailto:secretary@esactuk.org.uk>

We look forward to hearing from you and thank you in advance for your support – please remember, ESACT-UK meetings are organised by scientists for scientists! We are a group of volunteers, so all assistance appreciated!