



100 years of PHA research

# ISBP 2024



Towards Safe and Sustainable  
Biopolymers for our Future

2<sup>nd</sup>  
Announcement



## Invitation

Dear Colleagues,

The International Symposium on Biopolymers (ISBP) has established itself as a successful conference series dedicated to the exploration of biopolymers. Since its inaugural meeting in Toronto in 1988, the symposium has been held biennially, traversing cities such as Barcelona in 1990, Göttingen in 1992, Montreal in 1994, Davos in 1996, Tokyo in 1998, Cambridge in 2000, Münster in 2002, Beijing in 2004, Minneapolis in 2006, Auckland in 2008, Stuttgart in 2010, Cairns in 2012, Santos in 2014, Madrid in 2016, Beijing in 2018, and most recently, Sion, Switzerland, in 2022. With great delight, we announce the 19th edition, ISBP-2024, scheduled to take place from October 20 to 23 on the beautiful Penang Island of Malaysia.

The ISBP-2024 aims to showcase the latest advancements in various aspects of biopolymers with the theme of 'Towards Safe and Sustainable Biopolymers for our Future'. The topics to be explored include engineering advances in biopolymer synthesis, biosynthesis and characterization of novel biopolymers, exploring building blocks for bio-based polymers, biodegradation pathways, environmental impacts of biopolymers, sustainable feedstocks for biopolymer production, challenges in industrial production of biopolymers, PHA waste management, exploration of other biopolymers and bio-based polymers, applications of novel biopolymers in various industries, and rubber biosynthesis and biodegradation.

The ISBP-2024 logo draws inspiration from the unique appearance of polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA) granules, a type of storage polymer that accumulates within bacterial cells. The logo ingeniously incorporates the essence of these granules by subtly integrating their visual representation into the letter 'B', resulting in a captivating design.

We anticipate that ISBP-2024 will stimulate further advancements in the realm of environmentally friendly polymers and their diverse applications. We are particularly excited to organize this event in conjunction with the commemoration of 100 years of research in PHA, initiated by the French researcher Maurice Lemoigne in 1926. Your participation holds immense value, and we extend our sincere gratitude for your contribution.

We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming you to the enchanting Penang Island, which CNN Travel has listed among the top 22 Best Destinations to Visit (2022).

Prof. Kumar Sudesh  
Chair, ISBP-2024  
Universiti Sains Malaysia

## Organizer

School of Biological Sciences  
11800, Universiti Sains Malaysia  
Penang, Malaysia  
Prof. Kumar Sudesh  
[ksudesh@usm.my](mailto:ksudesh@usm.my)

## Scientific Committee

Prof. Ann-Christine Albertsson	(KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden)
Prof. George Guo-Qiang Chen	(Tsinghua University, China)
Prof. Georg Gübitz	(University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Austria)
Prof. Tadahisa Iwata	(University of Tokyo, Japan)
Prof. Dieter Jendrossek	(University of Stuttgart, Germany)
Prof. Sang Yup Lee	(Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology, Korea)
Prof. Kevin O' Connor	(University College Dublin, Ireland)
Prof. M. Auxiliadora Prieto	(Spanish National Research Council, Spain)
Prof. Bernd Rehm	(Griffith University, Australia)
Prof. Alexander Steinbüchel	(ICRI-BioM, Poland)
Prof. Manfred Zinn	(University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Switzerland)
Prof. Marti Roger	(University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Switzerland)
Prof. Kumar Sudesh	(Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia)
Prof. Luiziana Ferreira da Silva	(University of Sao Paulo, Brazil)
Prof. Richard Alan Gross	(Rensselear Polytechnic Institute, USA)
Prof. Anthony J. Sinskey	(MIT, USA)
Prof. Maria A.M. Reis	(NOVA University Lisbon, Portugal)

# Scientific Topics

**Biosynthesis and  
characterization  
of novel  
biopolymers**

**Exploring  
building blocks  
for bio-based  
polymers**

**Biodegradation  
pathways**

**Environmental  
impacts of  
biopolymers**

**Exploration of  
other biopolymers  
and bio-based  
polymers**

**Applications of  
novel biopolymers  
in various  
industries**

**Rubber  
biosynthesis  
and biodegradation**

**Sustainable  
feedstocks for  
biopolymer  
production**

**Challenges in  
the industrial  
production of  
biopolymers**

**Engineering  
advances  
in biopolymer  
synthesis**

**PHA waste  
management**

## Plenary Speakers

Prof. Bernd Rehm	(Griffith University, Australia)
Prof. M. Auxiliadora Prieto	(Spanish National Research Council, Spain)
Prof. George Guo-Qiang Chen	(Tsinghua University, China)
Prof. Tadahisa Iwata	(University of Tokyo, Japan)
Prof. Sang Yup Lee	(Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology)

## Confirmed Keynote Speakers

Prof. Takeharu Tsuge	(Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan)
Prof Stanislav Obruca	(Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic)
Prof. Kenichiro Matsumoto	(Hokkaido University, Japan)
Dr. James Winterburn	(The University of Manchester, England)
Prof. Manfred Zinn	(University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Switzerland)
Prof. Dieter Jendrossek	(University of Stuttgart, Germany)
Prof. Jasmina Nikodinovic-Runic	(University of Belgrade, Serbia)
Prof. Kevin O' Connor	(University College Dublin, Ireland)
Prof. Rajni Hatti-Kaul	(Lund University, Sweden)
Prof. Keiji Numata	(Kyoto University and RIKEN, Japan)
Prof. Maria A.M. Reis	(NOVA University Lisbon, Portugal)
Prof. Ipsita Roy	(University of Sheffield, United Kingdom)

## Event Calendar

Date	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
20 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Science Fair	Registration & Welcome Reception	
21 <sup>st</sup> October 2024	Opening, Oral & Poster Session		Excursion
22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2024	Oral & Poster Session		Gala Dinner
23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2024	Industry Day, Oral Session and Closing Ceremony		

### Registration

Please complete the [Registration form](#) before **30<sup>th</sup> June (Early bird)** or **30<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2024 (Regular)**.

## Registration fee

PARTICIPATION CATEGORY	EARLY BIRD (Until 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2024)		REGULAR (1 <sup>st</sup> July to 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024)	
	LOCAL (MYR)	INTERNATIONAL (USD)	LOCAL (MYR)	INTERNATIONAL (USD)
STUDENT	1500	350	2000	450
RESEARCHER & INDUSTRIAL EXPERT	2500	600	3000	700

## Call for Papers

You can register as an oral (limited) or a poster presenter. Each registered participant is eligible for one presentation only. Please submit an abstract using the [abstract template](#) prepared by our Scientific Committee. The official language is English, and selected papers will be published in [Elsevier's Polymer Degradation and Stability](#) (IF: 5.9). Participants can submit papers to the Conference Special Issue, which will be open from **23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024** onwards. The Registration & Abstract Submission Deadline is **30<sup>th</sup> June, 2024**, and adherence to these guidelines will facilitate the review process by the Scientific Committee. We appreciate your contributions and look forward to your active participation.

## Presentation

The allotted time for each speaker including Q&A session is as follows:

- Plenary: 40 minutes
- Keynote: 30 minutes
- Invited: 20 minutes
- Oral: 15 minutes





The lecture venue will have a laptop and a projector for presentations.

## Poster

Poster installation will commence on Sunday (20<sup>th</sup> Oct) after registration. Please note that authors are responsible for mounting their posters on the designated boards and removing them after the conclusion of the Symposium. The maximum dimensions allowed for the posters are A0 (84.1 cm x 118.9 cm ).

## Industry Day

On Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2024, Industry Day will center around the latest advancements in the production, processing, and application of biopolymers in Malaysia and worldwide. Additionally, there will be awards and closing ceremonies, along with the announcement of the upcoming ISBP. Below are the awards that will be given:

-  ISBP Lifetime Achievement Award
-  Bernard Witholt PHA Award
-  Industry Award
-  Best poster



## Sponsorship Reference

SOLD

### Diamond

RM100,000

- Co-sponsor of symposium
- 1 VIP invited to the inaugural ceremony
- 6 Full access voucher
- Oral and poster presentation
- Logo on printed final program
- Logo on the event website
- Logo on the conference material
- Acknowledgement in the inaugural address
- Exhibition booth
- Insert in the delegate bag
- 1 page size advertisement in abstract book
- Certificate of appreciation

### Platinum

RM50,000

- 3 Full access voucher
- Oral and poster presentation
- Logo on printed final program
- Logo on event website
- Logo on conference material
- Acknowledgement in inaugural address
- Exhibition booth
- Insert in the delegate bag
- 1 page size advertisement in abstract book
- Certificate of appreciation

### Gold

RM25,000

- 2 Full access voucher
- Logo on printed final program
- Logo on the event website
- Logo on the conference material
- Acknowledgement in the inaugural address
- Exhibition booth
- Insert in the delegate bag
- 1 page size advertisement in the abstract book
- Certificate of appreciation

### Silver

RM15,000

- 1 Full access voucher
- Logo on event website
- Logo on conference material
- Acknowledgement in inaugural address
- Exhibition booth
- Insert in the delegate bag
- 1/2 page size advertisement in abstract book
- Certificate of appreciation

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## Accommodation

For your convenience, we recommend booking accommodations near the symposium venue, Setia SPICE Convention Centre in Penang, Malaysia.

Recommended Hotels:

- [1. Amari SPICE Penang \(5-star\): 190m from SPICE.](#)
- [2. Olive Tree Hotel \(4-star\): 550m from SPICE.](#)
- [3. AC Hotel by Marriott Penang: 1.5km from SPICE.](#)
- [4. Eastin Hotel Penang: 3km from SPICE.](#)

Contact hotels directly for reservations, modifications, or cancellations. Ensure a seamless symposium experience by choosing one of our recommended accommodations.

## Location

Setia SPICE Convention Centre, SPICE  
No. 108C, Jalan Tun Dr. Awang, 11900, Penang, Malaysia.

## Accessibility



## Contact Information

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ISBP-2024 Secretariat  
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Website: [isbp2024.com](http://isbp2024.com)

## Important Deadline

Before **30<sup>th</sup> June 2024** you need to complete the following processes:

- Registration
- Hotel reservation (Recommended)
- Abstract submission

## About Penang- The Pearl of the Orient

Penang, in northwest Malaysia, is a captivating state with mainland Seberang Perai and Penang Island. George Town, the bustling capital, showcases cultural influences in landmarks like Fort Cornwallis and Khoo Kongsi clan house. Known as the Pearl of the Orient, Penang Island is a densely populated urban center with a rich trading port history. Modernity meets heritage in George Town's UNESCO zone, with a skyline blending colonial relics, Chinese shophouses, and Buddhist temples. Guided tours reveal panoramic views from Penang Hill, visits to Kek Lok Si temple, and leisure on Batu Ferringhi beach. Food delights include coconut laksa and prawn fritters, while nature lovers explore Monkey Beach and Pulau Payar Marine Park.