



Dear Colleagues,

As you will be aware this year has been a tough year for many societies with annual meetings needing to be cancelled because of the restrictions in place concerning the COVID-19 pandemic. The Metabolomics Society is no exception to this. It was with great reluctance we decided to cancel the face-to-face meeting in Shanghai after exploring a number of options to relocate or alter timings, all of which proved impossible. This has been the right decision as the Society needs to put first the health of its members. However, it will impact a number of our final year PhD students and early career post-doctoral researchers who now have no suitable mechanism to promote their research at a time when the job market is looking decidedly gloomy. The Society has also taken a sharp financial knock, as despite insurance, there are a number of costs in planning a large international conference of greater than 1000 attendees which are not covered by event insurance. I am happy to report that due to careful financial management across a number of treasurers and previous meetings we can absorb this hit but these have been dark days for many in the society.

The Board has discussed how we might best address the loss of the face-to-face conference. We have devised what we feel is a novel conference format that will maintain the international bonds of research in metabolomics and also cater to our more junior members across the globe. We are excited to announce **Metabolomics 2020 Online**, a virtual conference on October 27-29, 2020. For those of you that are of my age or older, we plan a "Live Aid" format where sessions will be hosted in different time zones in collaboration with our regional networks. The

first day will consist of workshops and days 2 and 3 will provide regular scientific sessions. Each session will consist of one plenary speaker followed by talks selected from submitted abstracts to maximize member interactions. We will also host virtual poster sessions two weeks before the main conference with the best posters invited to present their work at the virtual meeting. The meeting will be free to all registered members of the Society.

We hope that you will show your continued support of the Metabolomics Society by sponsoring this new venture. We have simplified sponsorship packages while offering a great value, as the aim is to cover the costs of the third-party IT resources required for the virtual event. We have two sponsorship levels of gold and silver with the benefits outlined below. We hope this will be a useful way for you to reach out to our membership and let them know that science hasn't slept during lockdown!

For further information about the virtual event please contact info@metabolomics2020.org and the team will be happy to discuss sponsorship opportunities and benefits. Sponsor registration for the virtual event will be available in late July. If you have additional questions or comments, members of our Industry Engagement Task Group will be pleased to connect. Additional information on corporate membership can be found at metabolomicsociety.org/index.php/corporate-members/benefits-of-membership.

If there is someone within your organization who could be an ongoing, permanent contact for the future world-wide activities of the Metabolomics Society, please advise our Society Administrator, A-S-K Associates (info@metabolomics2020.org) or any Industry Engagement Task Group member. We realize that these contacts are often managing on a regional or national basis but identifying the key person within your company with global coordination responsibilities would help our Industry Engagement Task Group get timely sponsorship information to the appropriate persons.

Again, many thanks for your continued support especially in this, a most difficult year.



Jules Griffin
President of the Metabolomics Society

Sponsorship Levels and Benefits

All prices are in U.S. Dollar (\$).

*GOLD – \$3,500	SILVER – \$1,500
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation Opportunity, Select 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsor Studio: 45 minute presentation on Day 1 (Workshop Day) • Scientific Session: 20 minute presentation on Day 2 or 3 <p><i>Limited spots available; selection occurs in order of payment received</i></p> • Corporate Membership to the Society which includes: (3) Complimentary e-blasts to the Society membership database • (2) Complimentary Society Memberships which provides complimentary access to the virtual conference • Acknowledgement as a Gold Sponsor on the website and during the virtual conference • Participation in the virtual exhibition hall – details to follow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Membership to the Society which includes: (3) Complimentary e-blasts to the Society membership database • (2) Complimentary Society Memberships which provides complimentary access to the virtual conference • Acknowledgement as a Silver Sponsor on the website and during the virtual conference • Participation in the virtual exhibition hall – details to follow

**Limited to 10 sponsors.*