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## The Société de Biomécanique Partnership Policy

### The Société de Biomécanique in a Nutshell

**Administration** The Société de Biomécanique was created in 1976 for international scholars. Its official language is French. Its statutes have been deposited with the *Préfecture de Police* in Paris, France, in compliance with the French law of 1<sup>st</sup> July 1901 governing non-profit organisations. Its registered office is located at 151 *boulevard de l'hôpital*, 75013 Paris, France.

**Scope** The Société de Biomécanique's purpose is to encourage and promote research in all areas of biomechanics. Its role is, notably, to foster close cooperation between researchers, encourage the dissemination of knowledge, and promote the development of the discipline. Members of the Société de Biomécanique are interested in the study of living biological systems; as a result, its scientific activities are found at the interface of many disciplines, such as physics, biology, mechanics, physiology, neurophysiology, medicine, engineering, robotics, imaging, etc. The objects of study mean that research is both multi-scale and multi-physical. Studies are carried out using both *in vivo*, *in vitro* and *in silico* models. The work addresses important societal challenges in the fields of health, physical and sporting activities, transport, ergonomics, industrial production, etc.

**Development** The Société de Biomécanique contributes to the development of biomechanics by organising an annual conference, themed open day, a Newsletter, an activity report, and by leading two thematic groups in the domains of "Impact biomechanics" and "Physical Activity, Performance, Sport and Health". Moreover, its members sit on the editorial boards of numerous respected journals in all of the domains covered by biomechanics.

From sixty-one members at its foundation in 1976, the Société de Biomécanique's membership has increased ten-fold, and is distributed across five continents. The number of members has doubled over the course of the past ten years.



Its annual conference brings together between 180 and 250 participants with 100 to 150 original scientific contributions. These contributions are published in the form of short articles in a special open-access edition of the indexed journal *Computer Methods in Biomechanics and Biomedical Engineering*. The co-authors of these papers are based in more than 30 countries. Since 2014, the proportion of students has increased by 10% following the implementation of an incentive programme. Students currently make up almost 40% of the participants. Conference contributions fall within the following ten topics: (1) Biomaterials and tissue engineering, (2) Cardiovascular and respiratory biomechanics, (3) Cellular and tissue biomechanics, Mechanobiology, (4) Impact biomechanics, (5) Osteoarticular biomechanics, (6) Movement and musculoskeletal biomechanics, (7) Sport biomechanics, (8) Ergonomics, disability and rehabilitation, (9) Humanoid robotics and GMCAO, and (10) Biomechanics of posture and balance. Plenary sessions such as senior and junior scientist awards and keynote speakers provide structure to the annual conference and are attended by internationally-recognised scientists, clinicians and industrialists.

**Network** The Société de Biomécanique has developed a close relationship with numerous French-speaking societies, such as the *Association Française de Mécanique* [AFM], the *Société Française de Chirurgie Orthopédique et Traumatologique* [SOFOT], the *Société Française de Médecine Physique et Réadaptation* [SOFMER], the *Société Francophone d'Analyse du Mouvement chez l'Enfant et l'Adulte* [SOFAMEA], the *Société Française du Génie Biologique et Médical* [SFGBM], or the *Société Française d'Hypertension Artérielle* [SFHTA]. In practice this translates into the organisation of joint conferences (AFM 2011, SOFMER 2012), themed open days or summer schools, the co-organisation of sessions, round tables or workshops during their respective conferences, and through the sponsorship of scientific events.

Since its creation, the Société de Biomécanique has established close links with the principal English-speaking biomechanics societies. This is seen in affiliations with the International Society of Biomechanics [ISB], the International Society of Biomechanics in Sports [ISBS], the European Society of Biomechanics [ESB], the American Society of Biomechanics [ASB], and the Canadian Society of Biomechanics/Société Canadienne de Biomécanique [CSB/SCB], the organisation of joint conferences (CSB/SCB-SB 2000, ESB-SB 2016), participation in the organisation of international conferences (the International Conference on Mechanics in Medicine and Biology 1982, ISB 1993, the World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering 1997, the World Congress of Biomechanics 2006 and 2018, and the International Conference on Biomechanics in Sports 2015, FIMM/SOFMMOO/UEMMO International Congress 2018), the co-organisation of sessions (the European Society for Biomaterials [ESB], the International Research Council on Biomechanics of Injury [IRCOBI], ISB, ISBS), conference sponsorship (Euromech 534, 594 and 595), and the involvement of its members on the boards of international societies such as the ISB, ISBS, ESB, SOFAMEA, the World Council of Biomechanics [WCB].

**Excellence** The Société de Biomécanique demonstrates its commitment to excellence in biomechanics through the bestow of various awards and grants.



The Christian Oddou award is the most prestigious award offered by the Société de Biomécanique. It recognises the work of an internationally-renowned senior researcher. It is awarded at the Société de Biomécanique's conference, following a keynote presentation by the winner.

The emerging researcher, doctoral thesis and best poster awards aim to promote (fundamental or applied) work that is clearly linked to the research topics and promotes the field of biomechanics, at both national and international levels.

With respect to scientific scholarships, the Société de Biomécanique has adopted a proactive approach to its members, notably its younger members, which aims to encourage attendance at its annual conference (a travel grant), foster inter-generational discussion (a mentoring programme), and initiate research collaboration (early career and developing researcher mobility grants).

## Partnerships

The Société de Biomécanique would like to modify its approach to its partners. Until now, this relationship has taken the form of the exhibition stands set up by partners at its conference. However, this approach alone does not fully reflect the evolving relationship between partners and scientific research and, therefore, the expectations of the aforementioned partners and the members of the Société de Biomécanique. Consequently, during its most recent conference, the Société de Biomécanique offered scientific workshops either run entirely by a partner or led by a member of the Société de Biomécanique and supported by a partner. This approach proved to be very successful, and the feedback from participants and partners was very positive.

Following this experiment, the Société de Biomécanique would like to follow the initiative with the implementation of a three-year partnership agreement linked to the conferences organised solely by the Société de Biomécanique (i.e. it does not concern the years in which the annual conference is held jointly with another scientific society). The main goal is to raise the profile of the different forms of communication of the Société de Biomécanique. There is three complementary options:

- Option 1 concerns the opportunity to co-organise at least one scientific workshop during the Société de Biomécanique conference to be held during the partnership.
- Option 2 is to provide support for one of the Société de Biomécanique's awards (best poster, doctoral thesis and emerging researcher awards) during the partnership.
- Option 3 is to provide the opportunity to exhibit your products during the Société de Biomécanique conference to be held during the partnership.

This partnership agreement as well as the three options are described in detail below.



The Société de Biomécanique undertakes to invest the funds provided by partners in its members' activities, notably Masters and PhD students. The aim of these activities is to highlight scientific excellence through awards, encourage student participation at its conference (travel grants), foster inter-generational discussions (mentoring programmes), and initiate research collaborations (early career and developing researcher mobility grants).

## Partnerships in details

### Obligations of the Société de Biomécanique

The Société de Biomécanique undertakes to:

1. Include/ show/ video-project the partner's logo (with or without a live link to their website depending on the media) on:
  - The homepage of the Société de Biomécanique website ([www.biomecanique.org](http://www.biomecanique.org)).
  - The "partners" page of the Société de Biomécanique website, together with a brief description of their activity.
  - The homepage of the Société de Biomécanique's conference website.
  - The "partners" page of the Société de Biomécanique conference website, together with a brief description of their activities.
  - Banners and posters advertising the Société de Biomécanique conference.
  - The printed programme prepared for the Société de Biomécanique conference.
  - Plenary sessions and conferences linked to the awards offered by the Société de Biomécanique.
  - Certificates given to the recipients of the Société de Biomécanique's awards (for example the mentoring programme, the travel granty, the mobility grants).
  - The Société de Biomécanique Newsletter (four issues per year sent to all members).
  - The Société de Biomécanique activity report (one issue per year, sent to all members).
2. Publication in the Société de Biomécanique's Newsletter of an article written by partner that presents their activities (one per year).
3. Inclusion of the brochure provided by the partner (delivery charges will be covered by the Société de Biomécanique) in the conference pack distributed to conference participants.
4. Provide the partner with two (2) invitations to participate in the Société de Biomécanique conference to be held during the partnership.



### **Partner obligations**

The partner undertakes to:

1. Transfer the sum of €4500 tax inclusive (four thousand five hundred euros tax inclusive) in three partial payments of €1500 tax inclusive (one thousand five hundred euros tax inclusive) respectively on the date of signature of the partnership, and on 15 September of the next two years, to the bank account of the Société de Biomécanique.
2. Provide a style guide for the publication of its logo in the various formats covered by this partnership agreement.
3. Provide a URL for the various live links.
4. Provide a short description of their activity for the “partner” pages on the Société de Biomécanique and conference websites.
5. Prepare and send an article to the Société de Biomécanique for publication in the Newsletter (one per year).
6. Provide the conference organising committee, at their own expense, with enough brochures for all of the conference participants.

### **Option 1: Co-organisation of a scientific workshop**

#### **Specific obligations of the Société de Biomécanique**

The Société de Biomécanique undertakes to:

1. Co-organise at least one scientific workshop with the partner during the Société de Biomécanique conference to be held during the partnership. The theme of this scientific workshop will be decided by both parties.
2. Organise coffee break(s) during the scientific workshop.
3. Publicise the scientific workshop *via* the usual channels.

#### **Specific obligations of the partner**

The partner undertakes to:

1. Transfer the sum of €1500 tax inclusive (one thousand five hundred euros tax inclusive) in three partial payments of €500 tax inclusive (five hundred euros tax inclusive) respectively on the date of signature of the partnership, and on 15 September of the next two years, to the bank account of the Société de Biomécanique.
2. Co-organise or sponsor a scientific workshop during the Société de Biomécanique conference to be held while the partnership agreement is in force.
3. Meet any expenses related to the organisation of the scientific workshop, such as travel and accommodation costs of conference attendees, the transport or rent of materials, or software updates.



## **Option 2: Support for an award bestowed by the Société de Biomécanique**

### **Specific obligations of the Société de Biomécanique**

The Société de Biomécanique undertakes to:

1. Include the name of the partner in the denomination of the supported award.
2. Prepare the certificate to be given to the winner of the award, with the name and logo of the partner.

### **Specific obligation of the partner**

The partner undertakes to:

1. Transfer the sum of €1500 tax inclusive (one thousand five hundred euros tax inclusive) in three partial payments of €500 tax inclusive (five hundred euros tax inclusive) respectively on the date of signature of the partnership, and on 15 September of the next two years, to the bank account of the Société de Biomécanique.

## **Option 3: Trade exhibitor opportunity**

### **Specific obligation of the Société de Biomécanique**

The Société de Biomécanique undertakes to:

1. Provide an exhibition stand with at least one (1) table and two (2) chairs during the Société de Biomécanique conference to be held during the partnership.

### **Specific obligation of the partner**

The partner undertakes to:

1. Transfer the sum of €1500 tax inclusive (one thousand five hundred euros tax inclusive) in three partial payments of €500 tax inclusive (five hundred euros tax inclusive) respectively on the date of signature of the partnership, and on 15 September of the next two years, to the bank account of the Société de Biomécanique.

## **Contact**

To find out more about the Société de Biomécanique and its partnership agreements, you are invited to contact Floren Colloud (Floren [fullstop] Colloud [at] univ-poitiers.fr).