



Society for **Reproductive Biology**

Society for Reproductive Biology Visiting Lecturer Award

The Award Rationale:

One of the main reasons for the existence of the Society for Reproductive Biology (SRB) is to support and promote reproductive science, the research of our members and the development of their careers. The aim of the Visiting Lecturer Award is to allow the Society to promote the career(s) of our many loyal mid-career researchers and ensure their continued contributions to the Society and the field of reproductive biology. The award will provide a grant-in-aid to enable the recipient to attend and present at an Australasian or international conference. In addition to conference attendance, the recipient may utilise the funds to visit institutions and research colleagues to establish or affirm collaborative research opportunities. The recipient is expected to present their research as an invited speaker or via a significant platform presentation at a major conference, or to deliver a seminar at a collaborating research institution. Presentations may be to an academic or public audience, or both. The grant-in-aid award may be used towards travel, accommodation or conference registration costs.

The creation of the SRB Visiting Lecturer Award, along with the publication of these criteria, will enable the Society to assist its members in demonstrating their standing in the field of reproductive biology, whilst promoting the benefits of SRB membership. This is a prestigious award that will enhance the profile of both the recipient and the Society.

Purpose of the SRB Visiting Lecturer Award:

- a) For the SRB to provide an acknowledgement, and endorsement, of the researcher's reputation in the Australasian reproductive biology community.
- b) To enable SRB members to present their research in reproductive biology to other research groups or at conferences either in Australasia or internationally.

Criteria for the SRB Visiting Lecturer Award:

1. Applicants must be more than eight but less than twenty years from the award of their PhD or equivalent higher degree (with exceptions for appropriate parental or equivalent leave) at the time of their application.
2. At the time of application, applicants must be current SRB members that have continuous financial membership for at least three consecutive years prior, with exceptions for career disruptions, such as parental or equivalent leave.
3. As a guide, applicants will have an average of three publications per year in peer-reviewed journals in the broad field of reproductive biology, for each year since graduating with their highest degree. A smaller number of recent high profile, or high impact publications, may also be considered sufficient by the Assessing Committee.
4. Applicants should demonstrate that they have attracted funding for their research (relevant to career-stage) and are thus likely to remain in the field of reproductive biology.
5. Applicants should also demonstrate how their research is being/has been translated to clinical, practical/field and/or commercial implementation.
6. The value of the award will be up to AUD \$2,500. Applicants will be required to present a budget for their grant-in-aid award and only real and reasonable costs associated with travel, accommodation or conference registration will be paid by the award.
7. The travel must occur within 7 months of the application and a report is to be submitted to the Society at the conclusions of the award period (see details below).

8. Individuals may only receive the Visiting Lecturer Award once. The funds may not pay for travel that has occurred prior to the application deadline.

Application and assessing process:

- Applications for the Visiting Lecturer Award of the Society of Reproductive Biology shall be considered twice a year and must be emailed as a single PDF to the SRB Secretary. For round one (travel occurring from 1st January to 30th June applications must be lodged by November 30th of the previous year, and for round two (travel occurring from the 1st July to 31st December), applications must be lodged by May 31st of the current year, or the last working day preceding these dates.
- Applications for the Visiting Lecturer Award will be made in the form of a letter of no more than two A4 pages, prepared using 12 point Times New Roman font or similar.
- The application should outline the activities to be undertaken, including proposed itineraries, the status of the conference or research institution, the benefit to the applicant and to the Society, and how these relate to the applicant's ongoing research and career plan.
- The application must be accompanied, if relevant, by letters of invitation from conference organisers, or hosts at research institutions.
- The application should be accompanied by a Curriculum Vitae of the applicant of no more than five pages.
- A one-page budget is to be submitted and should include indicative cost for travel, accommodation, conference registration, plus any other pertinent and reasonable costs. Applicants are required to demonstrate that at least 25% of the total cost of the travel will be paid by themselves, their institutions or from other sources (i.e. conference organisers).
- Following the acceptance of the award, all relevant receipts or copies should be forwarded to the Treasurer of the Society, the total cost of which should fall within 15% of the proposed budget (The maximum payment will be AUD \$2,500).
- Applications will be assessed by a committee, to be appointed by the SRB Council.
- The Visiting Lecturer Award of the Society for Reproductive Biology is a prestigious award and if in any round the Assessing Committee considers that there are no applications of sufficient merit, no award will be made.
- The number of Visiting Lecturer Awards in any given year will be determined annually by the SRB Council, but it is anticipated that only two awards will be available annually.
- Applications will be advertised via the SRB website and other relevant media forums.
- Applications will be assessed and the applicants advised of the outcome within two months of the application closing date.
- **Travel should be completed within seven months of submitting their application.**

Reporting:

Within one month of the completion of travel, a report of no more than one A4 page must be submitted to the SRB Secretary outlining the activities undertaken and the benefits accrued by the awardees. A short report suitable for publication in the SRB Newsletter (300-500 words with a photograph of the awardees) must also be sent to the SRB Secretary at that time.

The Assessing Committee:

The Assessing Committee for the SRB Visiting Lecturer Award will be chaired by a senior member of the SRB and will normally consist of at least two additional SRB members, to be appointed annually by the Chair. The Chair of the Assessing Committee will be appointed by the Council for a term of three years. The Assessing Committee will consider the quality of the applicants, the proposed activities and the anticipated outcomes from those activities, as well as the recommendations of the hosts.