

## Scientists receive first-ever Asterand-ISBER Biospecimen Science Awards

The Asterand-ISBER Biospecimen Science Poster Awards, sponsored by Asterand plc (LSE: ATD), a leading provider of human tissue and human tissue-based research services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies engaged in drug discovery, were awarded to three scientists at the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER) 2010 annual meeting, held May 11-14, 2010 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

The following scientists received awards:

- Fay Betsou, Dr. Sc., HDR, Integrated Biobank of Luxembourg, received the \$1,200 first place award for her poster presentation, "Standard Preanalytical Coding for Biospecimens: Defining the Sample PREanalytical Code (SPREC)."
- David Goerlitz, M.D., of Georgetown University School of Medicine, in Washington, D.C., won second place (\$700) for "Comparison of DNA Isolation Techniques from Saliva and a Novel Alcohol-Free Mouthwash Collection Method for Obtaining High-Quality Genomic DNA."
- Michael Barnes, Ph.D., Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio, received a third place award of \$350 for "Increased Stability of RNA in the Presence of GenTegra Matrix."

Abstracts of the winning posters have been published in *Biopreservation and Biobanking*, Volume, 7, Number 4 and can be viewed online at <http://www.liebertonline.com/loi/cpt>.

Award winning posters were selected by an awards subcommittee of the ISBER program committee and were presented by David Horsfall, Ph.D., of the Australian Prostate Cancer Bioresource, (Adelaide, Australia).

Asterand provided an unrestricted educational grant to ISBER to fund the awards, which were developed to encourage the development of original research related to biospecimen science.

Shannon Richey, Director of Marketing, Asterand commented:

"We are excited to be a part of this new ISBER award which recognizes excellence in poster presentations within the biospecimen sciences field. We believe awards of this calibre, selected and presented during such an important event, allow our industry to explore new scientific theories and share new innovations, technologies and services. We look forward to sponsoring additional awards in this area in the future."

**For further information contact:**

**Asterand plc**

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| Shannon Richey, Director of Marketing                     | (313) 263-0960 |
| Karen Hildebrandt, Marketing<br>Communications Supervisor | As above       |

**About ASTERAND**

Asterand plc is a leading supplier of high quality human tissue and tissue-based services. Our comprehensive approach to human tissue and research services offers pharmaceutical, biotech and diagnostic companies the unique opportunity to have one company meet all of their human biomaterial needs along the continuum of drug discovery and development. Our mission is to accelerate target discovery and compound validation and enable pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to take safer and more effective drugs into the market.

For more information, go to [www.asterand.com](http://www.asterand.com).