



April 2020

ABRF 2020 Annual Meeting: Empowering Team Science

The [2020 ABRF Annual Meeting](#), February 29 to March 2, 2020 in Palm Springs, offered valuable education and networking opportunities for all participants. ABRF2020 attracted a record number of session and poster submissions and participants, who attend the meeting for the latest in technology, shared resource management best practices, and networking. The keynote and sessions reflect these trends, ranging from updates on ABRF Research Groups to the ABRF Award Recipient, Dr. George Church, presenting on steps needed to enable the next revolution beyond his exponential improvements in cost and quality of DNA reading and writing (R&W) up to 10 million fold, and a series of NGS technologies (for example, fluorescent microscopy, nanopore and direct electronic measures).

ABRF members can view recordings of the meeting's sessions as well as presentations from several key speakers within the members' section of the ABRF [web site](#).

Now more than ever, the ABRF community provides members with critical connections to solutions and best practices for all core facilities. As one 2020 annual meeting attendee put it:

*"Nowhere else can I find people who are so helpful and willing to share
their ideas and suggestions.*

Everyone in ABRF is open and supportive.

*Engaging with exhibitors and technology vendors helps me get answers to
many of my questions."*

ABRF Responds to COVID-19 Crisis: New Resources and New Ways to Stay Connected

In response to these unprecedented times, ABRF members have banded together to support one another and to share resources, suggestions, and ideas. Members have engaged thousands of messages on social media, offering potential tools and resources to address the COVID-19 crisis. ABRF has established a new COVID-19 resources [page](#) to collect these examples and related documents.

ABRF President Rich Cole hosts a weekly online [forum](#) to offer a virtual gathering spot for members to connect with one another. Each week, more than 50 members join in to share ideas and updates on how they are coping with the current challenges.

Building on the success of this forum, new events are now available to address specific issues in Core Administration, Genomics, and Imaging.

ABRF Chapter Meetings Go Virtual for 2020

In light of the uncertainty around in-person events for the foreseeable future, ABRF Chapter leaders have decided to reschedule the 2020 Chapter meetings for 2021. Updated information for the 2021 events will be posted to the Chapters' web sites as soon as they are available.

ABRF Chapter communities will continue to provide support and resources for ABRF members, through virtual events and hosted presentations. More details will be posted on these events once they are confirmed. If you have suggestions for how to stay connected to other ABRF members in your area, please contact [us](#).

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