



Dear Colleagues,

As you know, IBC2020 cannot proceed as planned this coming July due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. It is such a shame, especially since the Korean Region had been working so hard to arrange a welcoming and exciting conference for us all.

We have spent quite some time thinking through options and have decided that even postponing until 2021 could be problematic, since it is not at all clear when global travel will return to normal. Also, we know there are many options for other meetings next year including the various regional meetings that are usually held in the IBC off-year. Indeed, the Korean Region are looking to run a small conference that incorporates some of the planned elements from IBC2020. Please stay tuned!

But the good news is that we are actively planning to offer some of the planned IBC2020 options virtually. We will be in touch with more detail in a week or so. Because of the time differences among us all, we plan to deliver our virtual IBC offerings over a number of weeks and will be picking a few time slots so as to make it feasible for everyone to join.

We will be asking a modest fee to participate in the virtual IBC2020, though there will be options for waived and reduced fees for members. Our top priority is to provide you, our members, with some useful sessions. But if you are in a position to pay the fee (e.g. if your university or organization will cover it for you), we will be very grateful since this will help offset some of the significant losses IBS has incurred due to the in-person conference being cancelled.

We look forward to seeing you on line soon and in person before too much longer!

Sincerely,

Louise Ryan
IBC2020 Organizing President