In an effort to welcome new first-time student attendees to the ABCT convention to help promote a positive convention experience, we invite participants in the Student Buddy program at the 49th Annual ABCT Convention in Chicago. This program matches new ABCT student convention attendees (“newbie”) with seasoned ABCT student attendees (“buddy”) to help familiarize the newbie to the ABCT convention and navigate the meeting. So, you might ask, “What’s involved?” It’s quite simple. After the buddy/newbie match has been created (based on information from submitted interest forms), each buddy and newbie will receive each other’s contact information. Prior to the convention, the buddy will be asked to connect with the newbie at least once via email or phone to arrange a meeting time and place prior to attending the Friday, November 13, ABCT awards ceremony together. After the awards ceremony, the buddy will take the newbie to the Welcoming Cocktail Party/SIG Expo, introduce the newbie to a few colleagues, and provide an overview on how to navigate the room. If you and your buddy decide that you want to do more together throughout the convention or end up collaborating on research, that’s a bonus! Again, the overall goal is to help newbies feel comfortable and leave after having a professionally rewarding experience. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and begin volunteering with ABCT. Questions? Please contact me at djmaack@olemiss.edu. Interested? Either fax the mail-in interest form (212-647-1865) or email your information to conventionbuddy@abct.org.

**Newbie Interest Form**

NAME:

AFFILIATION:

AREA OF INTEREST:

FACULTY MENTOR:

EXPECTED GRADUATION YEAR AND DEGREE:

QUESTIONS OR EXPECTATIONS OF FIRST ABCT CONVENTION:

**Buddy Volunteer Form**

NAME:

AFFILIATION:

AREA OF INTEREST:

FACULTY MENTOR:

EXPECTED GRADUATION YEAR AND DEGREE:

# OF ABCT CONVENTIONS ATTENDED: