



VIRTUAL PROGRAM

**Northern Lights: Impact of the
Global Biobanking Spectrum**

**Aurores Boréales : Impact du
Spectre Mondial des Biobanques**

www.isber.org



isber

MONTREAL CANADA
MAY 12-16, 2025
ANNUAL MEETING

Vision

ISBER advances the expertise and quality of biorepositories and biobanking science worldwide.

Mission

To be the leading network in the global biobanking and biorepository community.

Goals

- Disseminate information on repository management issues
- Educate and share information and tools within the society and with stakeholders
- Act as the voice for repositories to influence regulations and policy
- Develop best practice guidelines
- Provide centralized information about existing repositories
- Bring members together to work on emerging issues



International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories
1618 Station Street, Vancouver, BC, V6A1B6 Canada | T 604.484.5693

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MESSAGE FROM THE ISBER PRESIDENT

Dear ISBER members, colleagues and friends,

On behalf of the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER) Board of Directors, I warmly welcome you to the 2025 ISBER Annual Meeting & Exhibits, in person on May 12-16, 2025 in Montreal, Canada, and virtually on June 10-11, 2025.

Under the leadership of our Scientific Program Co-Chairs Dr. Dan Catchpoole (Australia), Dr. Anusha Hettiaratchi (Australia), and Dr. Vanessa Fonseca Tumilasci (Canada), and supported by an excellent Program Planning Task Force, this year's theme is "Northern Lights: Impact of the Global Biobanking Spectrum". Just as the Northern Lights illuminate the sky over Montreal, successful biobanking illuminates our understanding of the human and environmental condition through a spectrum of expertise and collaboration. Please join us to reveal how successful global biobanking continues to shape the scientific and research landscape.

This year, ISBER continues celebrating its 25th anniversary as the leading global forum for biobanking leadership. For the past quarter-century, ISBER has been a beacon of hope, a guiding light in the ever-evolving landscape of biobanking. From its humble beginnings as a mere seed of an idea, ISBER has blossomed into a global force, uniting professionals from every corner of the world under a common banner – the preservation of life's most precious resources. As we look to 2025 and beyond, we are ready to explore the profound impact biobanking has had across research, academia, industry, and society.

Our sincere appreciations go to our invited speakers, workshop presenters, roundtable leaders, corporate session leaders, and oral and poster abstract presenters – the subject matter you have put forward has created a great program, wonderfully shaped by the Program Planning Task Force. There are many opportunities for networking and creating new collaborations and friendships across the five days, as well as space to learn about how ISBER and its tools can support you in your daily work.

Thank you to our sponsors, who continue to show unwavering support for ISBER and biobanking. Please take time to visit the exhibition hall and speak with the vendors to discover the exciting new developments in technologies, tools, and equipment. Our vendors and their products are fundamental to the future of biobanking so take the opportunity to interact with them, either in the exhibit hall or at one of the corporate sessions.

During your time in the beautiful city of Montreal, you will have the opportunity to visit local biobanks. These internationally renowned biobanks will generously support tours to their facilities the day before the conference program starts. Besides, Spring in Montreal is all about light showers, blooming flowers and gentle, sunny rays. Tap sugar shacks for maple treats, watch mural paintings, and attend art fairs as well as music festivals in Montreal.

Thank you to our ISBER Head Office staff, who have supported us throughout the year in all aspects of this endeavor.

Finally, I would like to express my deep appreciation again to our members, friends, supporters, and visitors for your great contributions to this meeting. I hope that you find the meeting educational, valuable, and fun. Together, let's turn the dream into reality and make biobanking flourish in the future!

Sincerely,



Dayong Gao, PhD, BSc
PRESIDENT-OF-THE-BOARD
May 2024 - May 2025
University of Washington, Washington, USA



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INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

NETWORK WITH YOUR BIOBANKING COMMUNITY



Join the over 1,200 ISBER
Global Members online
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Discounted registration rates
of \$400+ for ISBER Annual
and Regional Meetings

Access to ISBER active
Members-Only Forums, and
the Member Directory

BEST PRACTICES IN TRANSLATION

Chinese and Japanese translations are now available
for download on the ISBER website! In addition, visit
our Amazon page to purchase printed copies,
available in English and Japanese.



Download the *Best Practices* at
www.isber.org/bestpractices



MESSAGE FROM THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM PLANNING CO-CHAIRS

Dear ISBER Community,

It is with great pleasure and pride that we welcome you to the 26th Annual Meeting and Exhibits of the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER), held this year in the vibrant and multicultural city of Montréal, Canada.

We would like to begin by acknowledging that we are located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather today. Tiohtià:ke/Montréal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present, and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within and around the Montréal community.

In 2024, ISBER marked 25 years as a global leader in biobanking—a remarkable achievement for a society and our meeting theme for 2025, “Northern Lights: Impact of the Global Biobanking Spectrum,” now invites us to illuminate the essential role biobanking plays in advancing research, supporting academic discovery, strengthening healthcare systems, and promoting environmental stewardship.

Just as the aurora borealis illuminates the night skies, biobanking illuminates our understanding of the human and environmental condition. This year’s program is inspired by the idea that light reveals what is often hidden in the shadows, and through our scientific sessions and community exchanges, we will explore what impactful biobanking looks like. We will celebrate the transformative work being done around the world through five core themes: managing human health in resource-constrained settings with a focus on global equity and collaboration; advancing disease prevention and pandemic preparedness under the One Health paradigm; promoting eco-responsibility and climate-conscious biobanking for a more sustainable future; harnessing data-driven impact through the synergy of biospecimens, AI, and real-world applications; and fostering biobank-industry collaborations that accelerate innovation.

We’ve also retained cherished ISBER traditions—the “Fun Run,” speed networking, educational workshops,

roundtables, and the celebration of our Rising Stars. New highlights include an “axiomatic” keynote experience, a reimagined “Great Debate,” and contributed papers presented alongside each symposium, giving voice to impactful work by ISBER delegates around the world.

During the year ISBER tragically and unexpectedly lost one of our long standing and vibrant members who pioneered biobanking in Singapore. Please join us as we pay respect to Dr Eng Boon Chon and remember his legacy to the biobanking community in Southeast Asia.

As an international organization ISBER want to create an environment where engagement between our global biobankers can commune and collaborate. To enable this, we have created region specific pavilions as focus points with the conference venue where you can meet and engage people for your region and beyond to facilitate networking and discussion relevant to your areas. Please make the most of this new opportunity within our meeting.

This meeting is a celebration of your impact - the stewards of biospecimens, the biospecimen scientists, the guardians of quality, the builders of trust, and the bridge between science and society. Biobanking may often remain in the background of research headlines, but it is central to scientific breakthroughs. Together in Montréal, we have the chance to reconnect, reimagine, and reaffirm the critical role we play in shaping a healthier, more resilient, and more informed future.

Finally, we would offer thanks to our trade sponsors and vendors who provide the products, technology and professional resources we all use to make our biobanks efficient, effective and impactful. Please ensure you spend plenty of time within the trade hall and get to know these wonderful supporters of ISBER.

Thank you for joining us. Let the lights of our global biobanking community shine bright.

Warm regards,

Dan Catchpoole, *University of Technology Sydney, Australia*

Anusha Hettiaratchi, *University of New South Wales, Australia*

Vanessa Fonseca Tumilasci, *Beckman Coulter Diagnostics, Canada*
ISBER 2025 Program Planning Task Force Co-Chairs

ISBER 2025 PROGRAM PLANNING TASK FORCE

Dan Catchpoole, PhD, FFSc(RCPA)

Children's Cancer Research Unit at
The Children's Hospital at Westmead,
Australia

Anusha Hettiaratchi, PhD

UNSW Biospecimen Services, Mark
Wainwright Analytical Centre (MWAC),
Australia

Vanessa Tumilasci, PhD

Beckman Coulter Diagnostics, Canada

Subasri Armon, MPath Malaysia

Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Phillis Babirye, MSc, BSc

MRC/UVRI and LSHTM Research unit,
Uganda

Dianne Chadwick, PhD

Ontario Tumour Bank, Canada

Io Hong Cheong

School of Public Health, Shanghai Jiao
Tong University School of Medicine,
China

Koh Furuta, MD, PhD

Chiba Medical Center, Japan

Cassandra Griffin, BA

BiomedSci and MPH, University
of Newcastle - NSW Regional
Biospecimen Services, Australia

Azra Hasan, PhD, PMP

Memorial University of Newfoundland,
United States

Gouri Mahajan, MBBS, PhD

The Mayo Clinic, United States

Wilfredo Marin, BA, MS

Thermo Fisher Scientific, United States

Sandra Nanyonga, BS, MS

Universite Cote d'Azur, France

Kristina Peterman, RBP

Merrick & Company, United States

Bushra Rakha, PhD

Assistant Professor, Pir Mehr Ali Shah
Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi,
Pakistan

Mandy Riffel, BS Microbiology, MBA

Dataworks Development, Inc.
(Freezerworks), United States

Manuel Rivas

Stanford University, United States

Evelyn Santana, MS

University of Pennsylvania, United
States

Rosy Singh

Barrow Neurological Institute, United
States

Quynh Vantu

Department of Veterans Affairs - PHRC,
United States

Lalita Wadhwa, PhD

Texas Children's Hospital, United
States

ISBER 2025 LOCAL ENGAGEMENT TASK FORCE

Dianne Chadwick

Ontario Tumour Bank, Canada

Jelani Clarke

AminoChain, Canada

Marie-Pierre Dubé

Montreal Cardiologic Institute Biobank,
Canada

Katarina Maksimovic

Ontario Tumour Bank, Canada

Anne-Marie Mes-Masson

Centre de Recherche du CHUM,
Canada

Naghme Rastegar

UHN Biospecimen Services, Canada

Vanessa Tumilasci

Beckman Coulter Diagnostics, Canada

Daniele Wolf

Canada

Geoff Wood

Ontario Veterinary College oncology
biobank at the University of Guelph,
Canada

Amber Yasmeen

Jewish General Hospital, Canada

ISBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE CHAIRS

ISBER Board Members

Dayong Gao, PhD, BSc

PRESIDENT ELECT
May 2024 – May 2025
University of Washington
Washington, USA

Alison Parry-Jones, PhD, MA, MRSC

PAST PRESIDENT
May 2023 – May 2024
Wales Cancer Bank - Cardiff University
South Glamorgan, United Kingdom

**Gregory Grossman, PhD
Neuroscience, CCRP, BCMAS, CEBT**

PRESIDENT ELECT
May 2025 – May 2026
Advancing Sight Network/Precision
Ocular Biobank
Alabama, USA

Jane Carpenter, MAppSci

TREASURER
July 2024 - May 2025
NSW Health Pathology
New South Wales, Australia

Rebecca Pugh, MS

SECRETARY
May 2023 – May 2026
National Institute of Standards and Technology
South Carolina, USA

William Schleif, PhD

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE - Americas
May 2023 – May 2026
Johns Hopkins All Children's Pediatric
Biorepository
Florida, USA

Jason Chen, BS

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE - China
May 2024 – May 2027
China National GeneBank
Guangdong, China

Engela Conradie, PhD, Pr.Sci.Nat

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE - Europe, Middle East,
Africa
May 2022 – May 2025
Centre for Human Metabolics
Potchefstroom, South Africa

Wayne Ng, PhD

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE - Indo-Pacific Rim
May 2023 – May 2027
Victorian Cancer Biobank
Melbourne, Australia

Dana Cooper, MBA, BKin, CAE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Ottawa, Canada

Communities of Practice Chairs

Education and Training

Tamsin Tarling, BSc, MSc
EDUCATION AND TRAINING CHAIR
Post COVID Recovery Clinic
British Columbia, Canada

Science Policy

Rita Lawlor, PhD, CIPP/E, CIPM
SCIENCE POLICY CHAIR
ARC-NET Centre for Applied Research on
Cancer, Italy

Standards

Annemieke De Wilde, MSc
STANDARDS CHAIR
BBMRI.be
Brussels, Belgium

Samantha Higgins, MSc, BSc

Standards Vice-Chair
Victoria Cancer Biobank
Melbourne, Australia

ISBER AWARD RECIPIENTS

ISBER Award for Outstanding Achievement in Biobanking

The ISBER Award for Outstanding Achievement in Biobanking is designed to recognize individuals who have made outstanding, indisputable contributions to the field of biobanking. The winning individual is not required to be an ISBER member. Their contributions may include: advancing the science of biobanking, creating depth of knowledge, demonstrating world-class expertise, making remarkable discoveries, bringing the field into further prominence.



JAJAH FACHIROH

Award sponsored by

ThermoFisher
SCIENTIFIC

ISBER Leadership Award

The ISBER Leadership Award is designed to honor ISBER members who have demonstrated exceptional leadership to further the mission and goals of the society and/or significant, long-standing contributions to the society. ISBER recognizes contributors who have played critical roles in developing and executing ISBER's vision and mission.



HELEN MORRIN

Award sponsored by



ISBER Special Services Awards

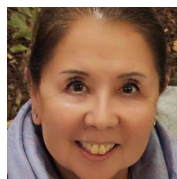
The ISBER Special Service Awards recognize individuals who have made exceptional contributions towards the goals of the Society through the performance of a special service or act on behalf of the organization. The award recipients are selected by the ISBER President.



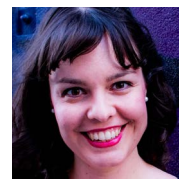
ENGELA CONRADIE



HENGJUN GAO



DEBRA GARCIA



CASSANDRA GRIFFIN



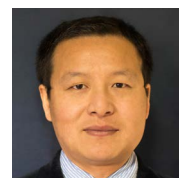
GREGORY GROSSMAN



WAYNE NG



STELLA SOMIARI



ZHIQUAN (ANDY) SHU

Best Poster Award

PC-16: ZIMS - A BIOBANK DATA MANAGEMENT TOOL WITH GLOBAL IMPACTS FOR SPECIES CONSERVATION

Presented by Paula Mackie, Toronto Zoo, Canada

Award sponsored by



Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr Eng Chon Boon, is the director for the Tissue Repository, National University Hospital (NUH), runs the Hospital-based Cancer Registry (HCR) at the National University Cancer Institute (NCIS) and has an adjunct position in the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health (SSHSPH), National University of Singapore (NUS). He is also the principal person-in-charge of tissue banks across the National University Health System (NUHS) public healthcare cluster and the co-lead PI for the Singapore Integrated Network of Biorepositories (SINB), an infrastructure network formed by academic tissue repositories in Singapore and co-lead for cancer databases and tissue bank platform within Singapore Translation Cancer Consortium (STCC). He is the Singapore's convenor for ISO/TC276 Biotechnology and in the editorial board of "Biopreservation and Biobanking" by Mary Ann Liebert. He graduated from University of Leeds, UK, with first class honours and subsequently, PhD in Molecular biology in 2004.



DR. ENG CHON BOON

Outstanding New Product Award

AWARDEE: ORIGINCELL/ORCELLA DUO 1100S AUTOMATED SAMPLE STORAGE



About Orcella

Orcella Instruments is a leading manufacturer of automated sample storage systems, specializing in the research, development, and production of fully automated biostorage solutions. Our systems span the full temperature spectrum—from +2 to +8 °C to ultra-low and cryogenic conditions—designed to support a wide range of sample formats and storage capacities.

Powered by advanced R&D and a multidisciplinary team of scientists and engineers, Orcella brings together deep expertise in cryopreservation, automation, and intelligent system design. With a strong commitment to quality and technological excellence, we provide comprehensive, end-to-end solutions for next-generation automated biostorage.

About the Orcella duo™ 1100S

The Orcella duo™ 1100S is a next-generation, fully automated ultra-low temperature (ULT) storage system featuring Orcella's proprietary dual-mode cooling technology. This advanced system integrates compressor-based and liquid nitrogen cooling, providing superior sample protection and effectively suppressing ice buildup.

Compact and plug-and-play, the Orcella duo™ 1100S combines cutting-edge automation, robust sample security, intelligent data management, and modular connectivity—making it an ideal solution for scalable, reliable and high performance ULT storage in advanced biobanking environments.

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phcbi

Silver

HAMILTON

Bronze



Exhibitors

300k, Altemis Lab, AminoChain, Askion, Audubon Science Co, Azenta Life Sciences, Biological Relocation Solutions, Brady Corporation, BSI Systems, College of American Pathologists, Cryo Bio System, Custom Biogenic Systems, Freezerworks, GA International, GenVault, Greiner Bio-One, Hamilton Storage, IC Biomedical, Kaye – Subsidiary of Amphenol, Krishagni LLC, Open Specimen, Labkey, LabVantage Solutions, Inc., Liconic, LVL Technologies, Micronic, Modul Bio, MVE Biological Solutions, Noblegen Cryogenics, Orcella Instruments, phasetwo, PHC Corporation of North America, Qingdao Haier Biomedical, Resonant Clinical Solutions, RockPoint Biopsy, LLC, Sampled, So-Low Environmental Equipment Company, Specie-Bio, Steribar Systems Limited, Stirling Ultracold, Testo, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Unchained Labs

GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Virtual Meeting Platform

The ISBER 2025 Virtual Annual Meeting is delivered through the virtual meeting platform, Pheedloop. You may log into the platform to:



**WATCH RECORDED SESSIONS
ON-DEMAND**



**ENGAGE IN LIVE WORKSHOPS
AND LIVE ROUNDTABLE
DISCUSSIONS**



**ACCESS POSTERS AND DISCUSS
WITH AUTHORS**



**VISIT EXHIBITORS AND BROADEN
YOUR KNOWLEDGE**



**NETWORK WITH INDUSTRY
LEADERS AND PEERS**

Follow the instructions below to download the Meeting Platform:

1. Scan the below QR code with your mobile camera
2. Select "Access Virtual Web Portal"
3. Log in using the login information sent to you via email
 - a. Username: your email address (be sure to login using the same email address you used to register for the meeting.)
 - b. Password: use "forgot password" to set your password



Exhibits & Posters

The Exhibit Hall and Poster Gallery are available for you to peruse at your leisure. Exhibitors and poster presenters will be available within their virtual booths / at their virtual posters to answer your questions at the following times:

TUESDAY, JUNE 10:

- North America Pacific Time: 15:00 – 15:30

PST	EST	Central Europe/ South Africa	China Standard	Australia
15:00	18:00	00:00	06:00	08:00
–	–	–	–	–
15:30	18:30	00:30	06:30	08:30

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11:

- North America Pacific Time: 09:15 – 09:45

PST	EST	Central Europe/ South Africa	China Standard	Australia
09:15	12:15	18:15	00:15	02:15
–	–	–	–	–
09:45	12:45	18:45	00:45	02:45

Poster Presentation Information

All abstract posters are available for you to view within the virtual platform – this includes all posters that were presented in Montreal, Canada, and those that are being presented virtually only.

Engage with Industry Leaders, Poster Authors, and Peers

Through the virtual platform, there are many options to connect with other virtual delegates:

- Send a private message
- Join a video call
- Request information to exhibitors
- Join live presentations from exhibitors

The networking section allows to filter your search and start conversation by:

- Replying to the matchmaking survey, to be matched with peers of similar interests
- Connecting with those "Online Now"
- Searching for "Poster Presenters", "Workshop Presenters", and "Exhibitors"
- Starting group discussions

If a delegate is online, their picture will be circled in green: "Start chat" and connect live!



Certificates of Attendance

All attendees will receive a certificate of attendance electronically upon completing the post-conference delegate evaluation. Distributed via email following the meeting.

VIRTUAL LIVE PROGRAM

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025

07:00 – 07:15 NA Pacific
10:00 – 10:15 NA Eastern
16:00 – 16:15 Central Europe
22:00 – 22:15 China Standard
00:00 – 00:15 Australian Eastern

Welcome and Daily Briefing

07:15 – 07:45 NA Pacific
10:15 – 10:45 NA Eastern
16:15 – 16:45 Central Europe
22:15 – 22:45 China Standard
00:15 – 00:45 Australian Eastern

Networking Time with North America and Europe, Middle-East, Africa

Q&A with Presenters of Corporate Sessions

07:45 – 08:15 NA Pacific
10:45 – 11:15 NA Eastern
16:45 – 17:15 Central Europe
22:45 – 23:15 China Standard
00:45 – 01:15 Australian Eastern

Q&A with Azenta Life Sciences on Corporate Session: Unlocking Efficiency: Optimizing Cold Storage for Maximum Research Potential

Watch the session on-demand before attending the live Q&A!

Samples are the foundation of research and critical to scientific breakthroughs, but inefficient storage in research areas outside of our biobanks slows down science by taking up valuable lab space and driving up costs. With research labs often dedicating up to 26% of their space to cold storage yet using an average of only 55% of available capacity efficiently, smarter material management is vital to maximizing research potential.

Join us as we dive into the critical role of optimized sample and material management and how you as sample management experts can champion change in your organization to accelerate research, reduce operational costs, and support sustainability goals. Drawing from assessments of over 3,600 cold storage units across 51 research facilities, our team will discuss:

- Strategies for securing stakeholder support across research, operations, finance, and administration
- Effective ways to help researchers identify and classify usable samples in cold storage.
- Recognizing the value of standardized data practices for institution-wide consistency and efficiency
- The key steps to implementing a long-term, sustainable solution for optimized material storage management

This interactive discussion will provide real-world insights from industry, academic, and medical research institutions, helping you navigate the path to more efficient research for your institution.

Presented by: Kathi Shea, Chief Client Solutions Officer, Repository

07:45 – 08:15 NA Pacific
10:45 – 11:15 NA Eastern
16:45 – 17:15 Central Europe
22:45 – 23:15 China Standard
00:45 – 01:15 Australian Eastern

Q&A with Thermo Fisher Scientific on Corporate Session: Optimizing Biobank Operations with Sustainable, Scalable Sample Management

Watch the session on-demand before attending the live Q&A!

This session will focus on creating scalable biobank operations through energy-efficient cold storage, innovations in sample tracking and identification, and flexible logistics strategies. The workshop will emphasize aligning sustainability goals with improved sample integrity and operational flexibility.

*Michael Easton, Director Product Management, Storage portfolio
Michael Taylor, Commercial Manager, ULT Freezers*

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025

Roundtable Discussions

08:15 – 09:15 NA Pacific
11:15 – 12:15 NA Eastern
17:15 – 18:15 Central Europe
23:15 – 00:15 China Standard
01:15 – 02:15 Australian Eastern

Mastering the Maze: a Discussion to Navigating the Validation/Verification Process in Biobank Labs

Monika Markovic, Qatar Biobank, Qatar

ISBER Mentoring Program

Judith Giri, Independent Consultant, USA
Marianne Henderson, National Cancer Institute, USA

Recruiting (and Retaining) Research Participants from Underrepresented Communities

Cari Lichtman, American Cancer Society, USA

Navigating Ethical Challenges in Biorepository Management: Balancing Science, Privacy, and Consent

Javeria Aijaz, Indus Hospital & Health Network, Pakistan

Utilizing Digital and Molecular Twin Technology Based on Biobanking Data

Karine Sargsyan, Cancer Shared Resources, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, USA
Denis Marino, Cedars-Sinai, OncoBiobank Cancer Inst Shared Services, USA

Getting to Know ISBER & Presentations of Communities of Practice [watch on demand]

09:15 – 09:45 NA Pacific
12:15 – 12:45 NA Eastern
18:15 – 18:45 Central Europe
00:15 – 00:45 China Standard
02:15 – 02:45 Australian Eastern

Getting to Know ISBER

Whether you are new to ISBER, a long-time member or considering to become a member, join us in this session to learn more about the Society and to ask questions!

Engela Conradie, Centre for Human Metabolics, South Africa
William Schleif, Johns Hopkins All Children's Pediatric Biorepository, United States

Presentation of the Education & Training, Standards, and Science Policy Communities of Practice

Tamsin Tarling, Education & Training Chair, Post COVID Recovery Clinic, Canada
Rita Lawlor, Science Policy Chair, University of Otago Christchurch, New Zealand
Annemieke De Wilde, Standards Chair, Biobank Antwerp, Belgium [pre-recorded]

Contributed Paper Sessions 1-2– Module [watch on demand]

09:45 – 10:30 NA Pacific
12:45 – 13:30 NA Eastern
18:45 – 19:30 Central Europe
00:45 – 01:30 China Standard
02:45 – 03:30 Australian Eastern

Contributed Paper Session 1 – Lessons from LMIC Biobanks: Health Impact and Global Insights

Contributed Paper Session 2 – Biobanks on the Frontline: Impacting the Future of Disease Prevention and Pandemic Preparedness

10:30 – 15:00 NA Pacific
13:30 – 18:00 NA Eastern
07:30 – 01:00 Central Europe
01:30 – 07:00 China Standard
03:30 – 09:00 Australian Eastern

BREAK

15:00 – 15:30 NA Pacific
18:00 – 18:30 NA Eastern
13:00 – 01:30 Central Europe
07:00 – 07:30 China Standard
09:00 – 09:30 Australian Eastern

Visit Exhibits & Posters

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025

15:30 – 15:45 NA Pacific
18:30 – 18:45 NA Eastern
01:30 – 01:45 Central Europe
07:30 – 07:45 China Standard
09:30 – 09:45 Australian Eastern

Welcome and Daily Briefing

15:45 – 16:15 NA Pacific
18:45 – 19:15 NA Eastern
01:45 – 02:15 Central Europe
07:45 – 08:15 China Standard
09:45 – 10:15 Australian Eastern

Networking Time with North America, Indo-Pacific Rim, and China

16:15 – 17:45 NA Pacific
19:15 – 20:45 NA Eastern
02:15 – 03:45 Central Europe
08:15 – 09:45 China Standard
10:15 – 11:45 Australian Eastern

E&T Workshop 3: Reimagining the Value Spectrum: Who Best Defines Value in Global Biobanking?

Presenters:
Jodie Clarkson, Biobanking Advocate and Patient Representative, Australia
Cassandra Griffin, The University of Newcastle, Australia

Ascertaining and promoting the value of biobanking is essential to the ongoing social and financial sustainability of biobanking globally. Our community continues to discuss and debate alternative measures of value; samples in, samples out, publications, grants - but what if the question of value is less about how it can be measured and more so who is best placed to define it? This workshop will reframe the question of value and provide practical examples of the use of qualitative research in conveying value to key stakeholders leading to funding security and policy change. It will then provide a toolkit for attendees to map their own strategy and undertake similar processes within their own biobanking communities.

An Axiomatic Dialogue – Keynote Module [watch on demand]

17:45 – 18:30 NA Pacific
20:45 – 21:30 NA Eastern
03:45 – 04:30 Central Europe
09:45 – 10:30 China Standard
11:45 – 12:30 Australian Eastern

To open ISBERs 2025 Annual Meeting “Northern Lights: Impact of the Global Biobanking Spectrum” we present an Axiomatic Discussion that brings together three speakers, a patient, a biobanker and a researcher each sharing their unique yet shared experience around one story. From the perspective of a patient consenting to biobanking, understanding the reasons for agreeing to bank samples, how the world of biobanking and biospecimen science is introduced to a lay person. The experience of the biobank team, seeking consent, explaining the chance it can offer, their knowledge and understanding of the research and diagnostic requirements and the processes that need to be put in place to enable this banking to happen in an efficient and timely manner. Through the viewpoint of the researcher, how biobanked samples can be utilised to help more than one patient’s diagnosis and the impact on research, how a network of biobanks can come together to create cohorts – showcasing how the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. This axiomatic discussion will delve into the spectrum of biobanking, biospecimens and biospecimen science to shine a light on the ripple effect biobanking can have, in this example within the human arena, but by extension similarly in environmental and biodiversity spaces.

Moderators: *Dianne Chadwick & Katarina Maksimovic*
Panelists:
Andrew Bondoc, The Hospital for Sick Children, Canada
Jessica Rosenbloom, The Hospital for Sick Children, Canada
Helen Dimaras, The Hospital for Sick Children, Canada

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025

07:00 – 07:15 NA Pacific
10:00 – 10:15 NA Eastern
16:00 – 16:15 Central Europe
22:00 – 22:15 China Standard
00:00 – 00:15 Australian Eastern

Welcome and Daily Briefing

07:15 – 07:45 NA Pacific
10:15 – 10:45 NA Eastern
16:15 – 16:45 Central Europe
22:15 – 22:45 China Standard
00:15 – 00:45 Australian Eastern

Networking Time with North America and Europe, Middle-East, Africa

07:45 – 09:15 NA Pacific
10:45 – 12:15 NA Eastern
16:45 – 18:15 Central Europe
22:45 – 00:15 China Standard
00:45 – 02:15 Australian Eastern

E&T Workshop 1: R You In? Transforming Biobanking with R (and a Little Bit of Magic)

Presenters:

Chris Battiston, Women's College Hospital, Canada

William Schleif, Johns Hopkins All Children's Pediatric Biorepository, United States

This session provides an introduction to R, covering essential packages for data analysis, including those used with and without REDCap. Attendees will also explore SQL basics with a focus on the SQLDF package, learning how to efficiently query and manipulate data within R. The session will then introduce ggplot2 for data visualization, highlighting fundamental techniques for creating clear and impactful visualizations. Finally, participants will learn how to generate survival plots (Kaplan-Meier curves) for time-to-event analysis.

Note: Attendees must have R and RStudio installed on their laptops, along with the sqldf, ggplot2, survminer, and survival packages. Installation, configuration, and troubleshooting assistance will not be provided.

07:45 – 09:15 NA Pacific
10:45 – 12:15 NA Eastern
16:45 – 18:15 Central Europe
22:45 – 00:15 China Standard
00:45 – 02:15 Australian Eastern

E&T Workshop 2: Sample Management: Practical Approaches to Storage and Distribution Workflows in a Biorepository

Presenters:

Caroline Larson, Windber Research Institute, USA

Preston Lehman, Windber Research Institute, USA

Stella Somari, Windber Research Institute, USA

Good quality and well annotated biospecimens are key to successful research. This requires protecting sample integrity through the biospecimen life cycle. Appropriate temperature conditions are required for storage (long term/short term) and transportation of biospecimens. Maintaining the cold chain when using commercial courier services requires the establishment of best practices that uphold sample integrity when shipments are delayed. During the COVID 19 pandemic, biobanks experienced widespread delayed shipments as commercial shipping services focused on vaccine distribution. Practices that maintained biospecimen integrity and prevented temperature excursions even with delayed shipments will be described. Data will be shared that supports the outcome of these practices over the years.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025

07:45 – 09:15 NA Pacific
10:45 – 12:15 NA Eastern
16:45 – 18:15 Central Europe
22:45 – 00:15 China Standard
00:45 – 02:15 Australian Eastern

E&T Workshop 4: Developing Strong Laboratory Workforce: Designing Effective Training and Competency Programs for Quality Standards Compliance

Presenter:
Eiman Al-Khayat, Qatar Biobank, Qatar
Linda Hannigan, Qatar Biobank, Qatar
Monika Markovic Bordoski, Qatar Foundation, Qatar

Training, competency, and staff performance are among the most frequently cited non-conformities during accreditation and certification audits in biobanking laboratories. But how can laboratories effectively determine the essential knowledge their staff must possess, and how is that knowledge accurately assessed? Why do these issues continue to emerge as recurring audit findings, and what steps can be taken to resolve them? This workshop will provide strategies for identifying and addressing the necessary training requirements for laboratory staff, ensuring alignment with ISO 9001 and ISO 20387 standards. Participants will gain actionable insights into how to develop, implement, and evaluate a robust training cycle-from planning and development to assessment and ongoing monitoring.

07:45 – 09:15 NA Pacific
10:45 – 12:15 NA Eastern
16:45 – 18:15 Central Europe
22:45 – 00:15 China Standard
00:45 – 02:15 Australian Eastern

E&T Workshop 6: Strategies for Lasting Biobank Quality, Utility, and Community Engagement

Presenter:
Gouri Mahajan, Mayo Clinic Phoenix, USA
Karen Meagher, Mayo Clinic Rochester, USA
Sandra Nanyonga, Universite Cote d'Azur, France

This workshop aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of biobank sustainability, encompassing both the scientific/operational aspects and the crucial role of community engagement and ethical considerations. A core component of biobank sustainability is maintaining high-quality biospecimen collections which are fit for purpose models and remain scientifically relevant despite evolving scientific landscapes, partnership needs, and technological advancements. 1. Practical approaches for making informed decisions about initiating, continuing, and discarding biospecimen and data collection will be discussed. 2. Two different projects will lead dynamic learning activities for building skills to effectively engaging diverse communities, addressing challenges, and navigating ethical considerations such as privacy, consent, and equity.

09:15 – 09:45 NA Pacific
12:15 – 12:45 NA Eastern
18:15 – 18:45 Central Europe
00:15 – 00:45 China Standard
02:15 – 02:45 Australian Eastern

Exhibits & Posters

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025

09:45 – 11:15 NA Pacific
12:45 – 14:15 NA Eastern
18:45 – 20:15 Central Europe
00:45 – 02:15 China Standard
02:45 – 04:15 Australian Eastern

E&T Workshop 5: From Sunrise to Sunset: Future-Proofing Your Biobank Across the Scientific Spectrum

Presenters:

Marianna Bledsoe, Biopreservation and Biobanking, USA
Marianne Henderson, National Cancer Institute, USA
Dee McGarvey, University of Pennsylvania, USA
Peter Watson, University of British Columbia, Canada

An essential component for biobank sustainability is ensuring that collections of biospecimens are of high quality, are fit for purpose and continue to be scientifically useful. The scientific demand for certain types of biospecimens and associated data may change over time with changes in science, stakeholder needs and technology. This workshop will address approaches for assessing changes in the science and engaging stakeholders to stay attuned to the evolving needs affecting the biobank. It will also address how to make decisions about when to start and stop collecting biospecimens and associated data, as well as for culling. The goal of these approaches is to effectively utilize current collections, evaluate approaches to support the establishment of new collections and data and decide when it might be time to sunset collections.

11:15 – 15:00 NA Pacific
14:15 – 18:00 NA Eastern
20:15 – 01:00 Central Europe
02:15 – 07:00 China Standard
04:15 – 09:00 Australian Eastern

BREAK

15:00 – 15:15 NA Pacific
18:00 – 18:15 NA Eastern
13:00 – 01:15 Central Europe
07:00 – 07:15 China Standard
09:00 – 09:15 Australian Eastern

Welcome and Daily Briefing

15:15 – 15:45 NA Pacific
18:15 – 18:45 NA Eastern
13:15 – 01:45 Central Europe
07:15 – 07:45 China Standard
09:15 – 09:45 Australian Eastern

Networking Time with North America, Indo-Pacific Rim, and China

Roundtable Discussions

15:45 – 16:45 NA Pacific
18:45 – 19:45 NA Eastern
13:45 – 02:45 Central Europe
07:45 – 08:45 China Standard
09:45 – 10:45 Australian Eastern

Consent in Biobanks: Exploring Different Forms, Situations, and Settings

Daiane Sertorio, Fiocruz, Brazil

Sample distribution targets and budget allocation

Katy McCortney, Northwestern University, Nervous System Tumor Bank, USA

What Do You Want to Know About the QBRS (Qualification in Biorepository Science) Exam?

Brent Schacter, University of Manitoba/CancerCare Manitoba, Canada

Funding opportunities for Biospecimen science research

Stella Somiari, Windber Research Institute/ISBER Biospecimen Working Group, USA

Minimum Viable Biobank for Global Impact : Specimen-Centric Data or Data-Centric Specimens?

V Krishnan Ramanujan, Cedars Sinai, USA

Biobanking Awareness: Paving a Path to Global Biobanking Week

Deb Leiolani Garcia, Independent Consultant, USA
Cassandra Griffin, The University of Newcastle, Australia

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025

Getting to Know ISBER & Presentations of Communities of Practice [watch on demand]

16:45 – 17:15 NA Pacific
19:45 – 20:15 NA Eastern
02:45 – 03:15 Central Europe
08:45 – 09:15 China Standard
10:45 – 11:15 Australian Eastern

Getting to Know ISBER

Whether you are new to ISBER, a long-time member or considering to become a member, join us in this session to learn more about the Society and to ask questions!

Engela Conradie, Centre for Human Metabolics, South Africa
William Schleif, Johns Hopkins All Children's Pediatric Biorepository, United States

Presentation of the Education & Training, Standards, and Science Policy Communities of Practice

Tamsin Tarling, Education & Training Chair, Post COVID Recovery Clinic, Canada
Rita Lawlor, Science Policy Chair, University of Otago Christchurch, New Zealand
Annemieke De Wilde, Standards Chair, Biobank Antwerp, Belgium

17:15 – 17:45 NA Pacific
20:15 – 20:45 NA Eastern
03:15 – 03:45 Central Europe
09:15 – 09:45 China Standard
11:15 – 11:45 Australian Eastern

BREAK

Watch the Most Popular Session from Montreal: the Debates! [watch on demand]

17:45 – 18:30 NA Pacific
20:45 – 21:30 NA Eastern
03:45 – 04:30 Central Europe
09:45 – 10:30 China Standard
11:45 – 12:30 Australian Eastern

The great debate! An exciting, engaging and thought provoking dive into some of the biggest questions being pondered by our ISBER community. Join us as key opinion leaders present opposing views on measures of value, sustainability and the evolving relationship between biobanking communities globally. How should we define value in biobanking? Does this differ between LMICs and HICS? What should sustainability mean to biobanks and have we lost our way? These are just some of the questions our engaging speakers will attempt to answer, a session not to be missed!

Debate 1: Measuring Biobank Value – A universal concept that can be measured in a standardised way?

Debate 2: Biobank Sustainability – Do Best Practices Have All the Answers?

18:30 – 19:15 PDT

Contributed Paper Sessions 3-5 – Module [watch on demand]

18:30 – 19:15 NA Pacific
21:30 – 22:15 NA Eastern
04:30 – 05:15 Central Europe
10:30 – 11:15 China Standard
12:30 – 13:15 Australian Eastern

Contributed Paper Session 3 – Eco-Responsibility in Biobanking

Contributed Paper Session 4 – Biobanking Enhancing Real-World Applications and Predictive Insight

Contributed Paper Session 5 – Biobanking Impact on Industry-Academic Partnerships

ON DEMAND PROGRAM

Symposia

Symposium 1: Balancing Health Impact and Resource Challenges in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMIC)

Biobanking has the potential to significantly enhance healthcare in low- and middle- income countries (LMICs) by addressing the increasing health burden. However, the establishment and operation of biobanks in these regions face considerable challenges, primarily due to resource scarcity, inadequate infrastructure, and limited funding. Political unrest, supply chain disruptions, and cultural factors can further complicate the situation, making it essential to understand and address these obstacles.

In regions where biobanking can provide significant benefits, it's essential to build upon locally led initiatives to ensure solutions align with cultural and practical realities, while leveraging external support where valuable. Collaborating with the international biobanking community allows us to share best practices, promote sustainable approaches, and address shared challenges. By fostering knowledge exchange and partnership, we can strengthen our collective response to these challenges. Such collaborative efforts will not only enhance biobanking capacity but will also play a key role in reinforcing healthcare infrastructure in LMICs.

Introductions

Sustainable Biobanking in Resource-Limited Settings: Lessons and Innovations from Indus Hospital & Health Network, Pakistan

Javeria Aijaz, Indus Hospital & Health Network, Pakistan

Current Practices, Barriers, and The Drive for Global Partnerships in LMIC Biobanks: A Comprehensive Qualitative Survey Project

Eszter Tuboly, Hungarian Pediatric Oncology Network, Medizinische Universität Graz, Hungary

Q&A Discussion

Symposium 2: Biobanks on the Frontline: Impacting the Future of Disease Prevention and Pandemic Preparedness

The disease prevention symposium will bring together experts and biobankers to explore the critical role of biobanks in the area of disease prevention, preparedness and response. Attendees will learn how this can be achieved through a variety of ways which include efficient resource management, collaborations, quality standards and considerations of ecological integrity. These presentations will showcase how biobanks support and contribute to advancing the field of disease prevention and pandemic preparedness under one health concept.

Introductions

The Canadian Biobank Alliance: Always Prepared

Angela Crawley, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Canada

Understanding the Childhood Cancer Prevalence in LMICs

Elodie Caboux, IARC Lyon, France

Q&A Discussion

An Axiomatic Dialogue

Moderators: Dianne Chadwick, Ontario Tumour Bank, Canada & Katarina Maksimovic, Ontario Tumour Bank, Canada

To open ISBERs 2025 Annual Meeting “Northern Lights: Impact of the Global Biobanking Spectrum” we present an Axiomatic Discussion that brings together three speakers, a patient, a biobanker and a researcher each sharing their unique yet shared experience around one story. From the perspective of a patient consenting to biobanking, understanding the reasons for agreeing to bank samples, how the world of biobanking and biospecimen science is introduced to a lay person. The experience of the biobank team, seeking consent, explaining the chance it can offer, their knowledge and understanding of the research and diagnostic requirements and the processes that need to be put in place to enable this banking to happen in an efficient and timely manner. Through the viewpoint of the researcher, how biobanked samples can be utilised to help more than one patient’s diagnosis and the impact on research, how a network of biobanks can come together to create cohorts – showcasing how the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. This axiomatic discussion will delve into the spectrum of biobanking, biospecimens and biospecimen science to shine a light on the ripple effect biobanking can have, in this example within the human arena, but by extension similarly in environmental and biodiversity spaces.

Introductions

Panel Discussion

*Andrew Bondoc, The Hospital for Sick Children, Canada
Jessica Rosenbloom, The Hospital for Sick Children, Canada
Helen Dimaras, The Hospital for Sick Children, Canada*

Symposium 3: Light of Success Debate

*Session Chairs: Cassandra Griffin, University of Newcastle - NSW, Regional Biospecimen Services, Australia & Anusha Hettiaratchi, University of New South Wales, Australia
Session Champions: Subasri Armon, Dan Catchpoole, Cassandra Griffin, Anusha Hettiaratchi, Kristina Peterman*

The great debate! An exciting, engaging and thought provoking dive into some of the biggest questions being pondered by our ISBER community. Join us as key opinion leaders present opposing views on measures of value, sustainability and the evolving relationship between biobanking communities globally. How should we define value in biobanking? Does this differ between LMICs and HICS? What should sustainability mean to biobanks and have we lost our way? These are just some of the questions our engaging speakers will attempt to answer, a session not to be missed!

Measuring Biobank Value – A universal concept that can be measured in a standardised way?

Affirmative:

*Michael Perricone, Xspera Biosciences, USA
Nida Jawaid, Indus Hospital & Health Network, Pakistan
Michael Sheldon, Sampled, USA
With Participation by Poster Presenters*

Negative:

*Jessica Rosenbloom, The Hospital for Sick Children, Canada
Carlos Bustamante, Galatea Bio, USA
Jane Wanyiri, Leidos Biomedical Research Inc., USA
With Participation by Poster Presenters*

Panel Discussion & Questions

Biobank Sustainability - Do Best Practices Have All the Answers?

Affirmative:

*Javeria Aijaz, Indus Hospital & Health Network, Pakistan
Fay Betsou, CRBIP, Institut Pasteur, France
Stella Somiari, Windber Research Institute, USA
With participation by poster presenters*

Negative:

*Oliver Ryder, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, USA
Eszter Tuboly, Hungarian Pediatric Oncology Network, Medizinische Universität Graz, Hungary
Naghme Rastegar, University Health Network, Canada
With participation by poster presenters*

Panel Discussion & Questions

Symposium 4: Eco-Responsibility in Biobanking: Energy-Efficient Solutions and Climate Impact on All of Us

Session Chairs: Azra Hasan, Memorial University of Newfoundland, USA & Mandy Riffel, Dataworks Development, Inc. (Freezerworks), USA
Session Champions: Phillis Babyrie, Wilfredo Marin, Koh Furuta, Bushra Rakha, Mandy Riffel, Evelyn Santana, Quynh Vantu

The Sustainability symposium will bring together experts and practitioners to explore the critical role of biobanks in promoting global sustainability. Attendees will learn best practices for establishing sustainable biobanks that prioritize ecological integrity and resource efficiency. Through a series of presentations, participants will discover how biobanking can support biodiversity conservation and environmental research. The symposium will also highlight the positive impacts of biobanking on local and global ecosystems. Join us to engage in meaningful discussions and collaborations that advance the field of sustainable biobanking for a healthier planet.

Introductions

Enhancing Population Sustainability and Reducing Extinction Risk: A Crucial Role for Biobanking in the Anthropocene

Oliver Ryder, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, USA

Biobanking for Life... on Earth

Monique Albert, Centre for Biodiversity Genomics, University of Guelph, Canada

Q&A Discussion

Symposium 5: The Dr. Eng Chon Boon Memorial Symposium: Enhancing Biobanking through Real-World Applications and Predictive Insight

Session Chairs: Dan Catchpoole, The Children's Hospital at Westmead, Australia & Manuel Rivas, Stanford University, USA
Session Champions: Dianne Chadwick, Dan Catchpoole, Gouri Mahajan, Manuel Rivas, Quynh Vantu, Lalita Wadhwa

The practice of biobanking is intimately entwined with the generation, capture and analysis of data. This can be data derived from the participants and biospecimens themselves or linked to them through external digital databases and electronic records. This symposium will focus on the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning enabled through our biobanking efforts. By harnessing advanced algorithms and data analytics, researchers can enhance participant recruitment, sample collection and inventory management, streamline data retrieval, and improve predictive modeling for disease treatment. This symposium and contributed abstracts will bring together experts from diverse data-focused fields to discuss innovative analytics that maximize biobanking impact, and promotes collaboration through systematic data management that will significantly enhance our research utilization and outputs.

A few words about Dr. Eng Chon Boon

Wayne Ng, Victorian Cancer Biobank, Australia

Introductions

Delivering Precision Health at Scale for All

Carlos Bustamante, Galatea Bio, USA

Global Biobank Meta-Analysis Initiative: Powering Genetic Discovery Across Human Disease

Wei Zhou, Broad Institute of MIT & Harvard, USA

Q&A Discussion

Symposium 6: Accelerating Research through Academic Biobanks-Industry Collaborations

Session Chairs: Cari Lichtman, American Cancer Society, USA & Wilfredo Marin, Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA & Sandra Nanyonga, Université Côte d'Azur, France

Session Champions: Dianne Chadwick, Cari Lichtman, Wilfredo Marin, Sandra Nanyonga, Vanessa Tumilasci

This symposium will explore the pivotal role of biobankers-industry partnerships in advancing scientific research and accelerating the translation of discoveries into real-world applications. Through success stories from biobankers and industry stakeholders, this session will highlight key opportunities from each perspective. Academic biobanks benefit from full cost-recovery models, reciprocal data-sharing and more, while early biotech companies leverage biobank resources to drive innovation from discovery to commercialization. Industry partners gain access to high-quality biospecimens for assay validation and product development, and patient partners contribute to speeding up the clinical translation of new treatments. Despite these benefits, challenges remain and navigating them can help to accelerate research by learning from each other. From the shared experience, we will discuss practical solutions, such as enhancing biobank visibility, improving outreach, and fostering transparency with intermediary organizations.

This session will demonstrate how these collaborations are crucial for innovation, enhancing biobank sustainability, shaping research and advancing healthcare.

Introductions

Optimisation of Biological Sample Requests Implementation of Remnants Samples Valorisation

Léa Marchand, Hospices Civils de Lyon Biobank, France

Unlocking Biobank Potential: Leveraging Frozen Tumor Tissues to Advance Drug Development

Michael Perricone, Xsphaera Biosciences, USA

Q&A Discussion

Symposium 7: Rising Stars: Next Generation Biobankers

Session Chairs: Io Hong Cheong, School of Public Health, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, China, & Deb Leiolani Garcia, Independent Consultant, USA & Gouri Mahajan, The Mayo Clinic, USA

Session Champions: Io Hong Cheong, Deb Leiolani Garcia, Gouri Mahajan

The Rising Stars: Next Generation Biobanker's symposium's focus is to showcase emerging biobankers from various international regions. This year's three speakers will highlight their milestones, advancements in new biobanking techniques along with the challenges and barriers they overcame to establish their biobanks. Each speaker will bring their unique point of view on the importance of biobanking in their region. The session will conclude with a panel discussion allowing the audience the opportunity to interface with the speakers. The session provides opportunities to network with seasoned biobankers, encourage mentoring and possibly provide partner collaborations.

Introductions

The Born in Guangzhou Cohort Study: A Research Platform for Maternal and Child Health in Southern China

Qiu Xiu, Guangzhou Women and Children's Medical Center, China

Advancing Research Standards in Peru through the Integration of Cancer Registries with Biobanks

Sandro Casavilca-Zambrano, Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Neoplásicas, Peru

Biobanking in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities

Kossi Kobo, Institut Pasteur de Dakar, Senegal

Q&A Discussion

Corporate Sessions

Thermo Fisher Scientific: Optimizing Biobank Operations with Sustainable, Scalable Sample Management



This session will focus on creating scalable biobank operations through energy-efficient cold storage, innovations in sample tracking and identification, and flexible logistics strategies. The workshop will emphasize aligning sustainability goals with improved sample integrity and operational flexibility.

Michael Easton, Director Product Management, Storage portfolio
Michael Taylor, Commercial Manager, ULT Freezers

Krishagni LLC Open Specimen: Informatics Platform for All Your Biobanking Needs



OpenSpecimen is the world's leading Biobanking LIMS, trusted by 100+ clinical research centers across 20+ countries. Our customers range from enterprise-wide deployments involving hundreds of users and millions of specimens to individual labs and research groups. This talk will provide an overview of how OpenSpecimen can streamline your biobanking operations while showcasing its feature-rich and highly configurable platform.

Srikanth Adiga, CEO/Founder, Krishagni Solutions Pvt Ltd
Poornima Govindrao, Chief Product Officer, Krishagni Solutions Pvt Ltd

MVE Biological Solutions: Navigating Challenges: Innovative Approaches to Storage and Shipping of Biological Samples in Remote and Resource-Limited Environments



Safely storing and transporting biological samples in remote and resource-limited environments presents significant challenges, including limited access to liquid nitrogen (LN₂) and the need for real-time monitoring during transit. This session will explore technological innovations and solutions that address these challenges.

Attendees will learn how the MVE Fusion® freezer revolutionizes sample storage by eliminating the need for a continuous LN₂ supply, making it ideal for remote locations. Additionally, we will discuss how MVE's integrated condition monitoring on cryogenic dewars enhances sample security during shipping by providing real-time tracking of temperature, liquid level, and orientation.

Join us to discover how these innovations are shaping the future of biological sample storage and logistics in challenging environments.

Kevin Gilliland, Vice President of Sales – Life Sciences at MVE Biological Solutions

Azenta Life Sciences: Unlocking Efficiency: Optimizing Cold Storage for Maximum Research Potential



Samples are the foundation of research and critical to scientific breakthroughs, but inefficient storage in research areas outside of our biobanks slows down science by taking up valuable lab space and driving up costs. With research labs often dedicating up to 26% of their space to cold storage yet using an average of only 55% of available capacity efficiently, smarter material management is vital to maximizing research potential.

Join us as we dive into the critical role of optimized sample and material management and how you as sample management experts can champion change in your organization to accelerate research, reduce operational costs, and support sustainability goals. Drawing from assessments of over 3,600 cold storage units across 51 research facilities, our team will discuss:

- Strategies for securing stakeholder support across research, operations, finance, and administration
- Effective ways to help researchers identify and classify usable samples in cold storage.
- Recognizing the value of standardized data practices for institution-wide consistency and efficiency
- The key steps to implementing a long-term, sustainable solution for optimized material storage management

This interactive discussion will provide real-world insights from industry, academic, and medical research institutions, helping you navigate the path to more efficient research for your institution.

Kathi Shea, Chief Client Solutions Officer, Repository

Contributed Paper Sessions

Contributed Paper Session 1 – Lessons from LMIC Biobanks: Health Impact and Global Insights

Moderators: Javeria Aijaz, Indus Hospital & Health Network, Pakistan & Eszter Tuboly, Hungarian Pediatric Oncology Network, Medizinische Universität Graz, Hungary

Introductions

The 10X10 Partnership Project with Low and Middle Income Countries to Access Representative Human Samples Through the Virtual Biorepository System

Judith Giri, Colorado School of Public Health, USA

Protecting Privacy - African Data Regulations

Elizabeth Sarah Mayne, University of Cape Town Faculty of Health Sciences, National Health Laboratory Service, South Africa

Decarbonization Strategies at MRC/UVRI and LSHTM Uganda Research Unit Biobank

Phillis Babirye, MRC/UVRI and LSHTM Uganda Research Unit, Uganda

10 years of BCNet: Opportunities, Challenges and LMIC-specific Experiences in Biobanking

Elodie Caboux, IARC Lyon, France

Establishing Key Performance Indicators to Enhance Biorepository Operations and Quality Management

Nida Jawaaid, Indus Hospital & Health Network, Pakistan

Challenges in Establishing a Biorepository in a Veterinary Research Facility

Puseletso Johnston, Agricultural Research Council, South Africa

Q&A/Panel Discussion

Contributed Paper Session 2 – Biobanks on the Frontline: Impacting the Future of Disease Prevention and Pandemic Preparedness

Moderators: Elodie Caboux, IARC Lyon, France & Angela Crawley, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Canada

Introductions

Validation of Dual Needle Core Biopsy Device

Rocky Ackroyd, BioBankBuilders, LLC, Quinnipiac University School of Health Sciences, USA

Development of REDCap Decision Support Tool for Large-Scale Return of Genetic Results

Nicole Larson, Mayo Clinic Minnesota, USA

Impact of Local Engagement Funding in the Cancer Moonshot Biobank

Jane W Wanyiri, Leidos Biomedical Research Inc., USA

A Biobanking Legacy: The Impact of Post-Mortem Biobanking Programs

Cassandra Griffin, The University of Newcastle, Australia

Setting up a Bacteriophage Biobank to Support Phage Therapy

Fay Betsou, Institut Pasteur, France

The CHAMPS Biorepository: Building Quality Biorepository Capacity in LMICs

Judith Giri, Emory University, USA

Q&A/Panel Discussion

Contributed Paper Session 3 – Eco-Responsibility in Biobanking

Moderators: Monique Albert, Centre for Biodiversity Genomics, University of Guelph, Canada & Oliver Ryder, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, USA

Introductions

Institutional Conversion to Energy-efficient Ultra-low Freezers Decreases Carbon Footprint and Reduces Energy Costs: Methods and Results

Dean Shehu, University of California San Francisco, USA

An innovative and Quantitative Tool for Culling Collections of Human Specimens; Multi-Institutional Proof of Concept

Valentine Piquard, Institut Pasteur, France

Breaking the Specimen Black Box Cycle

Kathleen Wyatt, Leidos Biomedical Research Inc., USA

Understanding Decarbonization and Environmental Sustainability Practices in the Global Biobanking Landscape

Naghme Rastegar, University Health Network, Canada

Q&A / Panel Discussion

Contributed Paper Session 4 – Biobanking Enhancing Real-World Applications and Predictive Insight

Moderators: Carlos Bustamante, Galatea Bio, USA & Wei Zhou, Broad Institute of MIT & Harvard, USA

Introductions

Tissue Portal: A Case Study in Biobank Support via Derivatization Core Facilities

Ilinca Lungu, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, Canada

Demonstrating Biobank Efficacy through the Development of a Bibliographical Metric Tool

Zachery Von Menchhofen, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, USA

Blockchain-Based Universal Identifiers for Biobank Sample Tracking in Canada

Sion Israel Sion, Ecole de Technologie Supérieure, Canada

A New Paradigm for the Biorepository: Providing Novel Solutions for Multiomic Analysis of Samples Collected for Research into the Genetics of Human Disorders

Michael Sheldon, Sampled, USA

Q&A / Panel Discussion

Contributed Paper Session 5 – Biobanking Impact on Industry-Academic Partnerships

Moderators: Léa Marchand, Hospices Civils de Lyon Biobank, France & Michael Perricone, Xspha Biosciences, USA

Introductions

Custom Prospective Fresh Tumour and Blood Procurement from the Ontario Tumour Bank (OTB): Supporting the Next Generation of Precision Medicine Initiatives

Riley Cox, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, Canada

Clinical, Biological, Imaging and Genetic Repository (C-BIG): An Integrated Approach to Biobanking in the Context of Open Science

Marie-Noelle Boivin, Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital, Canada

Building the Kids Eye Biobank: Structure, Governance and Participant Consent Preferences

Helen Dimaras, The Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto, Canada

Living Biobanks Of Patient-derived Organoids Facilitate The Promise of Precision Medicine

Carissa Huynh, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, USA

Q&A / Panel Discussion

Special Sessions

ISBER 2025 – Welcome & Getting to Know ISBER

Welcome Address from the ISBER President-of-the-Board

Dayong Gao, University of Washington, Washington, USA

Land Acknowledgment & Welcome Remarks from the 2025 Annual Meeting Program Chairs

Dan Catchpoole, The Children's Hospital at Westmead, Australia

Anusha Hettiaratchi, University of New South Wales, Australia

Vanessa Fonseca Tumilasci, Beckman Coulter Diagnostics, Canada

Getting to Know ISBER

Whether you are new to ISBER, a long-time member or considering becoming a member, join us to learn more about the Society and to ask questions!

Engela Conradie, Centre for Human Metabolics, South Africa

William Schleif, Johns Hopkins All Children's Pediatric Biorepository, USA

Presentation of the Education & Training, Standards, and Science Policy Communities of Practice

Tamsin Tarling, Education & Training CoP Chair, Post COVID Recovery Clinic, Canada

Rita Lawlor, Science Policy CoP Chair, University of Otago Christchurch, New Zealand

Annemieke De Wilde, Standards Chair, Biobank Antwerp, Belgium

Board Session: Illuminating ISBER's Future

Session Chairs: Greg Grossman, Advancing Sight Network/Precision Ocular Biobank, USA & Stella Somiari, Windber Research Institute, USA

The members have spoken! The ISBER Board has taken that feedback and crafted a strategic plan for ISBER for 2025-2028. This session will share the feedback received and what the priorities for ISBER will be moving forward. ISBER must focus its limited resources on the highest priorities. What we know is that we cannot be everything to everybody. The Board has to make challenging decisions on what makes the most sense for ISBER given the member and stakeholder input and the state of the biobanking industry. Come learn what those priorities will be and help guide ISBER's future. Your input is always welcome.

Introductions

Panel Discussion

Biobanking in the World

Session Chairs: Greg Grossman, Advancing Sight Network/Precision Ocular Biobank, USA & Alison Parry-Jones, Wales Cancer Bank - Cardiff University, United Kingdom

As ISBER embarks on operationalizing its 3-year strategic plan, this session will delve into how the organization can enhance its global impact and influence on biobanking by strengthening its connections, partnerships, and business agreements. Recognizing that ISBER does not exist in a vacuum, a panel of global delegates will explore ISBER's potential as a unifying force, bringing together biobanks, societies, research organizations, clinical services, governments, and vendors. Attendee participation will be instrumental in considering how collaborations can elevate global biobanking and ISBER.

Presentation by Session Chairs

Panel Discussion

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

All in-person posters are available in the virtual platform, under Poster Gallery.

Poster #	Abstract Title	Presenter Name
Biobank Tools		
PA-01	Setting Up a Tumour Bank at Institut Pasteur de Cote D'Ivoire	Kouame Ambroise Kintossou
PA-02	DNA Quality Comparison of Formalin-Fixed Paraffin-Embedded Tissue and Fresh Tissue	Abrar Ramadan
PA-03	The National Cancer Institute's Biospecimen Research Database: a Longstanding, Valuable, and Robust Resource for Biobanking	Ping Guan
PA-04	Inventory and sorting of the collections of the Biobank of the Institut Pasteur de Côte d'Ivoire	Kouame Ambroise Kintossou
Biobanking Profiles		
PB-01	Expansion of the First Biobank in Saskatchewan, Canada	Sylvie Clairefond
PB-02	The Signature Biobank : A Longitudinal Biopsychosocial Repository of Psychiatric Emergency Patients	Cecile Le Page
PB-03	The Quebec Cancer Research Network (RRCancer) Accelerating Oncology Research in the Province of Quebec.	Anne-Marie Mes-Masson
PB-04	Advancing a Lipedema Research Roadmap: Planning of a Biobank to Fuel Research to Characterize the Biology of a Complex Disease	Stacey G Heil
PB-05	Australasian Biospecimen Network Association: Harnessing the Diversification of Our Membership	Cassandra Griffin
PB-06	The ISO 20387 Accreditation Practice of the Clinical Biobank of Peking Union Medical College Hospital	Dan Guo
PB-07	Establishment of a Biorepository of Philippine Bat Virome and Therapeutics for Clinical and Research-Based Applications (PhilBioBaT)	Marian P. De Leon
Biobanking Structures & Cross-sector/Species Partnerships		
PC-01	Westmead Biobank Facility Advancing Precision Medicine through the PrecisionGO Project	Ya Wang
PC-02	Bridging Theory and Practice: Lessons from Establishing Pakistan's First Pediatric Acute Leukemia Biobank	Javeria Aijaz
PC-03	Significance of Biobank Registry in Facilitating Biobanking Process and Enhancing its Quality	Marwa Saady
PC-04	Sustainability Strategies at the MRC/UVRI and LSHTM Biobank; A Pathway to Long Term Viability	Esther Nabanoba
PC-05	Understanding Biobank Participation: Demographic Insights into Biobank Consent Decisions and Refusals	Priyanka Seenauth
PC-07	Efficiently Reducing the Carbon Footprint of a Large Biorepository	Erika Shepherd
PC-08	Overcoming Challenges in Building a Rare Cancer Biobank: Strategies for Definition and Collaboration.	Aurora Mejia Benitez
PC-09	Driving Increased Training Engagement, Flexibility, and Resource Improvement Through Utilization of a Peer Training Structure in the Biobank	Jessica Ng-Siva
PC-11	Facilitating research access and biobank sustainability: Creation of a collaborative network of independent oncology biobanks	Katarina Maksimovic
PC-12	Evolving Biobank Database Architecture: Supporting Growth and Adaptation Over 20 Years of Operation	Larry Phouthavongsy
PC-13	Infectious Disease Biobanking in Low-Middle Income Countries	Io Hong Cheong
PC-14	Biobanking Regulatory Framework in Southeast Asia	Io Hong Cheong
PC-15	Survive, Drive and Thrive – Business Model for Collaborative Research	Leanne Wallace
PC-16	ZIMS-A Biobank Data Management Tool with Global Implications for Species Conservation	Paula Mackie
Biodiversity/Environmental/Animal Repositories		
PD-02	The Ontario Veterinary College Veterinary Biobank: Facilitating Translational Cancer Research	Deirdre Stuart

Poster #	Abstract Title	Presenter Name
Biospecimen Research, Science and Outputs		
PE-01	Current NCI Funding for Biospecimen Science	Abhi Rao
PE-02	Tumor Biobank Enhanced by Digital Pathology and AI in Developing Countries	Aditya Saini
PE-04	From Storage to Study: SOH Biobank's Commitment to Supporting Research	Rehab Mohamed
PE-05	RNA Sequencing from Small Biopsy Specimens: Challenges and Best Practices	Lokesh Agrawal
PE-06	High-throughput Fluorescence Assay For Plasma Quality Measurements in Biobanks	Diana Hernandez
PE-07	Quality Plan for Optimizing Preservation and Storage of Mycobacterium tuberculosis Isolates in a Biorepositories	Nida Jawaidd
PE-08	Thermal excursions of cryogenically frozen vials (below -150C) and the risk of rising above Tg,H2O: analyzing warm-up rates from cryogenic storage to both dry ice and ambient temperature environments	Erica Waller
PE-09	Assessment of SARS-CoV-2 RNA Stability in Biorepository Samples: Impact of Long-Term -80°C Storage and Room Temperature on Ct Values	Nida Jawaidd
PE-10	Socio-Demographic and Health-Related Characteristics of the PROCURE Biobank Participants, a Biobank for Prostate Cancer Research	Ginette Mckercher
PE-11	Investigating Long-term Storage Stability of TNF-α and IL-6 Plasmatic Concentrations in a Psychiatric Sample and Provide Strategies to Mitigate Potential Degradation: The Signature BioBank	Enzo Cipriani
PE-12	Precision Aliquoting Supports Spatial Tracking and Longevity of Human Tissue Samples for the Somatic Mosaicism Across Human Tissues (SMaHT) Network Biobank	Isabel Sleeman
PE-13	Optimizing Prostate Cancer Tissue Sampling: MRI and Puncture Biopsy Reports Improve Tumor Cell Content of the Tissue Collected by Biobank	Qi Wang
PE-14	Specimen Handling Methods for Optimizing Microplastic Investigations in Pediatric Surgical Patients	William Schleif
PE-16	The Mathison Centre Neurogenetics Biobank and Advancing Precision Mental Health	S-M Shaheen
PE-17	The Optimal OCT Tissue Storage Temperature for Biobanking and Spatial Transcriptomics	Katy Mccortney
Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues		
PF-01	Informed Consent Forms Shouldn't Be Reminiscent of a Software's Terms and Conditions	Helena Ellis
PF-03	Opportunities and Challenges in a Groundbreaking Research Programme – an Ethics Perspective	Alison Parry-Jones
PF-04	Development of a Patient Advocate Committee for the Kids Eye Biobank	Frances Argento
PF-05	Who Gets to Decide? Clinical Judgement vs. Gatekeeping in Biobank Participation	Helen Dimaras
PF-06	Enhancing Decision-Making Capacity Assessment in Biobank Consent: A Proposed Role for Research Staff at the Kids Eye Biobank	Kaitlin Jones
PF-07	Shaping Biobanks Together: The Power of Consumer Co-Design in e-Consent	Ashley Rudge
PF-08	A Preliminary Analysis of Ethical Issues in Analyzing Public BioBank Data Using AIGC Technology	Yuqing Ji
PF-09	Material and Data Transfer Agreement Support or Obstacle in International Research and Collaboration	Judita Kinkorova
Hot Topics		
PG-01	To Cull or How to Cull, those are the Questions!	Marianne Henderson
PG-02	Decentralized Biobanking to Empower Patient Engagement in Organoid Research	Ananya Dewan
PG-03	Biobanking in the ASEAN region: challenges and opportunities	Zisis Kozlakidis
PG-05	Standardized Construction of Experimental Cell Bank of Rare and Complex Diseases in Peking Union Medical College Hospital of China	Kun Zhao
PG-06	An Organoid Platform for Ovarian Clear Cell Carcinoma	Dan Guo
PG-07	Intelligent Development of Biobank Enables Scientific Research Transformation	Anqi Wang

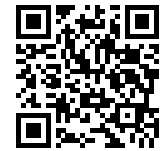
Poster #	Abstract Title	Presenter Name
Informatics & Technology		
PH-01	Experience in Building a Biobank CDM linked with EMR-based CDW	Eun-Young Kim
PH-02	Automated Screening for Study Eligibility: Increasing Recruitment and Optimizing Biobank Workflow	Christopher O Familusi
PH-03	The Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cell (PBMC) Isolation Automation Experience: The Benefits and Challenges of Transitioning Workflows	Maria Villalva
PH-04	Development and configuration of a BIMS for Data-Driven Microbial Collections	Omar Augusto Mantilla
PH-05	GTEx Resources: Still Empowering Biomedical Research After Ten Years	Ping Guan
PH-06	Can Biobanks Be the Solid Bridges Between Pediatric Oncology Prognostics and Machine Learning: Results from a Comprehensive Meta-Analysis	Petra Varga
PH-08	Robosep-S: Pioneering Automated Mononuclear Cell Processing for Optimized Acute Leukemia Biobanking	Katarina Czibere
PH-10	Making a Greener Consent Model	Lisa Spary (Abby Macarthur)
PH-11	Design and Application of a Data Management Solution for a Hospital-based Research Biobank	Tiziana Franchin
PH-12	Optimizing Information System Operations for Large-Scale Biobank and Resource Management in Korea	Minseok Chu
PH-13	Universal Consent Registry: A Model for Simplifying Research Participation and Accessing Diverse Biospecimens	Leslie Solis
Innovative Technology		
PI-01	Maintaining Sample Integrity During Repeated Freeze/Thaw Cycles	Alexis Macleod
PI-02	Automated vs. Manual Ultra-Low Temperature Sample Storage: A Comparative Analysis of Space Efficiency, Power Consumption, Labor Efficiency, Running Costs, and Carbon Emissions	Brandon Houchins
PI-03	Equivalent Results, No Freezers: Room-Temperature Encapsulation for Nucleic Acids	Lee Organick
PI-04	Standardizing the use of Laser Capture Microdissection in biobanked samples to Improve downstream genomics application in Personalized Medicine	Sheng-Ben Liang
PI-05	Modular, Automated Storage: A Path to Improved Efficiency and Cost Savings for Biorepositories	Michelle M. Ng-Almada
PI-06	AI-Facilitated Biobank Sample Identification Optimization	Jerome Baudry
PI-07	Bridging the Gap: Collaborative Design to Develop DanyBot, a Modular Solution for Biobank Automation	Bernal Cortes
PI-08	A high throughput, rapid, automated, and nanoscale SNP fingerprinting workflow for assessing sample quality, integrity, and contamination for use in a biorepository.	Luke Stewart
PI-09	QuickConc: Rapid eDNA Concentration and Ambient Temperature Biobanking for Enhanced Environmental DNA Monitoring	Ryo Iwamoto
PI-11	Methodological Establishment and Optimization of Paraffin Embedding for Trace Organoids	Dan Guo
Repository Standards		
PJ-01	Optimizing Facilities Management in Biobanks: Developing Effective In-house Equipment Calibration Standards and Procedures	Chung Hin Fung
PJ-03	PBMC Proficiency Testing, Combined With Specific Key Quality Indicators, May Serve As Indicators of Competency and Performance For Similar Processes Within The Biorepository, Effectively Monitoring Multiple Processes With A Single Proficiency Test.	Robyn Osborne
PJ-04	Expanding the Quality Management Plan to Focus on Patient-centeredness: The CHTN-SD Experience	Morgan Copeland
PJ-06	Block Quality Index Number (BQIN): Novel Method Suggested for Expressing the Quality and Usability of a Research Grade FFPE Block	Shaji Ayillath Keezhadath
PJ-07	Revitalizing Historic Repositories: A Methodical Examination of the Past	Margaret Cruz
Repository Standards		
PJ-08	Challenges in the Collection of Biological Samples from the Operating Room - The Champalimaud Foundation Biobank Experience	Hasti António Meggi Calá
PJ-10	Duke Human Vaccine Unit (DHVU) Accessioning Unit and Biorepository ISO 20387 Biobank Accreditation	Thaddeus Gurley

Poster #	Abstract Title	Presenter Name
Repository Standards		
PJ-13	Enhancing Quality Control in PBMC Analysis: Integration of Levey-Jennings Charts for Cell Counting and Viability	Mohammad Shafayat Hossain Chowdhury
PJ-11	Prospective Analysis of Preanalytical Variable Impact on RNA from Placenta	Ellen A. Schneider
PJ-12	The Essential Value of Biobank Samples Monitoring	Aisha M. Gamal
PJ-14	Achieving Compliance to ISBER Best Practices 5th Edition Following ISO 9001 Framework and Principles	Ellen Hendrickson
PJ-15	Achieving ISO 20387 Accreditation for ATCC Gaithersburg Repository	Christina Fuqua
PJ-16	Establishment of a Quality Control of Data in the Andalusian Public Health System Biobank	Ana María Sánchez-López

EXHIBITORS LISTING

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PART 2: Accreditation, Certification, and Standardization: Demystifying the Black Box of Certification and Accreditation of Biobanks [3 hours]



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ISBER 2025 Argentina Regional Meeting BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA



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