

ISBER Elections Biosketch

First Name	Last Name
Anna	Michalska-Falkowska
What ISBER Board position are you applying for?	
Secretary	
Degree (if applicable)	
Doctor of Philosophy PhD (Medical Sciences), Doctor of Pharmacy, Master of Science in Biobanking	
Current position and institution	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deputy Director of Quality Management, Biobank, Medical University of Bialystok, Poland - Substantive supervisor of postgraduate studies "MBA in Healthcare integrated with Clinical Trials and Biobanking, - Clinical Team Coordinator - Poland, Crown Bioscience, USA - Lecturer in the Department of International Biobanking and Education, Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria 	
Education and Experience	
<p>Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 18.11.2024 – 20.11.2025: Harvard Medical School, Poland Clinical Scholars Research Training Program - 28.07.2023: American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification, Qualification in Biorepository Science - 01.10.2021 – 30.09.2022: Wroclaw Medical University, postgraduate studies "Non- commercial clinical trials" - studies carried out with the support of scholarship obtained from the Medical Research Agency - 01.10.2020 – 23.09.2022: Medical University of Graz, Austria, International studies: Master of Science in Biobanking - 01.01.2020 – 05.06.2023: Medical University of Poznan, Poland, Faculty of Pharmacy, Specialization in Clinical Pharmacy - 01.10.2012 – 02.07.2015: Medical University of Bialystok, Poland, Faculty of Pharmacy with the Department of Laboratory Medicine, doctoral studies at the Department of Microbiological Diagnostics and Infectious Immunology. PhD thesis: "Molecular basis of drug resistance of Proteus mirabilis clinical strains for beta-lactams, aminoglycosides, and fluoroquinolones" - 01.10.2006 – 31.03.2012: Medical University of Bialystok, Faculty of Pharmacy, Master of Science in Pharmacy <p>Experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 01.11.2022 – present: Medical University of Bialystok, Biobank, Deputy Director of Quality Management <p>Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - management of the Biobank at the Medical University of Bialystok, - preparation and updating of Standard Operating Procedures, protocols, and quality control forms, - management of medical records, validation of clinical data, translation of Patients' records from Polish into English as part of cooperation with Indivumed GmbH, - quality control of samples of liquid and tissue material collected as part of the Oncology Section of Biobank at the Medical University in Bialystok, 	

- training in the field of biobanking of biological material and data collection for Biobank employees and units cooperating with the Medical University in Bialystok,
 - preparation of applications for research grants, carrying out research projects, keeping project documentation, preparing applications for the Bioethics Committee,
 - consultant for infrastructure development at the Medical University of Bialystok,
 - consultant for the joint projects between the Medical University of Bialystok and external parties,
 - management of the cooperation between the Medical University of Bialystok and Indivumed GmbH,
 - conducting didactic classes for Pharmacy, Dentistry, Clinical Biostatistics, and English Division - Faculty of Medicine students.
- 01.05.2022 – present: Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria, lecturer in the International Biobanking and Education for the courses „How to Build a Biobank”, „How to Operate a Biobank”, „Sustainability in Biobanks”, „Managing Multidisciplinary Teams and Scientific Projects in Biobanks”
- 01.03.2022 – 30.06.2022: Bialystok University of Technology, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, lecturer in the field of Biomedical Engineering as part of the Tissue and Genetic Engineering course
- 01.06.2021 – present: Member of the expert team for the development of the Act on Biobanking at the national node of the European Biobanking Network BBMRI.pl
- 13.05.2021 – present: Volunteer at the Human Milk Bank Foundation and the European Milk Bank Association on the implementation of the European Milk Bank accreditation system
- 01.03.2021 – present: Volunteer at the Foundation Center for Societal Initiatives, co-contractor of the project "Citizen Audit of the Pharmacological Treatment Process for Seniors in Poland"
- 01.12.2019 – present: THORAX Foundation – volunteer, coordinator for science and cooperation with the business environment
- 01.07.2016 – present: Indivumed GmbH, Indivumed Services, Hamburg, Germany, now reorganizes as Crown Biosciences, USA – Clinical team coordinator, a specialist in biobanking and clinical data management
- 14.02.2017 – present: Member of the Scientific Team at the Rector's Plenipotentiary for Commercialization and Development of Cooperation with the Business Environment
- 30.11.2015 – 31.10.2022: Medical University of Bialystok, Department of Clinical Molecular Biology, scientific and technical specialist
- Responsibilities:
- management of the Biobank Oncology Section at the Medical University of Bialystok,
 - training in the field of biobanking of biological material for Biobank employees and units cooperating with the Medical University in Bialystok,
 - preparation and updating of Standard Operating Procedures, protocols, and quality control forms,
 - management of medical records, validation of clinical data, translation of Patients' records from Polish into English as part of cooperation with Indivumed GmbH,
 - quality control of samples of liquid and tissue material collected as part of the Oncology Section of Biobank at the Medical University in Bialystok,
 - preparation of applications for research grants, carrying out research projects, keeping project documentation, preparing applications for the Bioethics Committee,
 - managing the cooperation between the Medical University of Bialystok and Indivumed GmbH,
 - conducting didactic classes with Pharmacy, Dentistry, and English Division - Faculty of Medicine students

Expert activity:

- 2025.01 – present: Expert in the IMAGINE-HMB Project (Project number 101161125) funded by European Commission
- 2024.10 – present: Expert of the National Centre for Research and Development in the field of evaluation of research projects
- 2023.04 – present: Expert of the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development in the field of evaluation of research projects
- 2022.05 – present: Expert of the Medical Research Agency in the field of evaluation of clinical trials projects
- 2022.04 – 2023.12: Co-editor of the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER) Biobanking Best Practices, 5th Edition, in the Quality Management section and Terminology section
- 2022.03 – present: Expert of the Foundation for Polish Science in the field of medical biotechnology
- 2021.03 – present: Expert of the Foundation Center for Societal Initiative in the field of polypharmacotherapy and polypharmacy, co-author of the work "Multidrugity of Seniors in Poland - Legal, social and medical aspects - Report 2021"

Scientific projects:

- 01.02.2024 – present: Substantive supervisor of the postgraduate studies "MBA Studies in Health Care integrated with Clinical Research and Biobanking" financed by the Medical Research Agency as part of the Competition for the development and implementation of an original postgraduate program in the field of biomedical sciences.
- 01.01.2024 – present: Principal Investigator in the „Precision Medicine Education for Clinical Implementation and Science Excellence in Medical Training (PRECISEMED)” project within the ERASMUS+ program
- 01.01.2021 – 31.12.2021: Leader of the project entitled "Assessment of 1p deletion, 19q deletion and 1p/19q codeletion in patients with oligodendroglioma and oligoastrocytoma brain tumors using fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH)"
- 01.01.2021 – 31.12.2022: Biobanking specialist in the project entitled "Development and clinical validation of a new hybrid molecular test (SARS-HYB45) for direct and rapid SARS-CoV-2 diagnostics: laboratory and point-of-care application financed under the National Center for Research and Development - "Fast Track Competition - Coronaviruses".
- 01.09.2020 – 31.12.2022: Co-manager of the project entitled "Society for health - raising awareness, developing good practices for the promotion and protection of health" as part of volunteering at the THORAX Foundation (co-financing from the Civic Organizations Development Program for 2018-2030 of the National Institute of Freedom)
- 24.04.2020 – 30.12.2020: Co-manager of the project entitled "Establishment of the Meningioma DNA Section at the Biobank of the Medical University of Bialystok" (SUB/1/NN/20/00/1184)
- 16.04.2020 – 30.12.2020: Co-manager of the project entitled "Assessment of the possibility of using liquid biopsy in genetic diagnosis for the presence of SARS-CoV-2"
- 16.04.2020 – 30.12.2020: Co-manager of the project entitled "Establishment of the SARS-CoV-2 virus section securing biological material at the Biobank of the Medical University of Bialystok"
- 16.04.2020 – 30.12.2020: Co-manager of the project entitled "Analysis of the molecular variability of SARS-CoV-2 virus"
- 16.04.2020 – 30.12.2020: Co-manager of the project entitled "Molecular characterization of SARS-CoV-2 virus strains combined with phylogenetic analysis"
- 16.04.2020 – 31.12.2022: Co-manager of the project entitled "Comparative analysis of ACE2 genes in positive samples from patients from Podlaskie voivodship for SARS-CoV-2 infection"

- 19.12.2020 – 18.12.2020: Leader of the project entitled "Assessment of the 1p / 19q codeletion in patients with glioblastoma multiforme of the brain using fluorescent in situ hybridization (FISH)" funded under the MINIATURE 3 - National Science Center (NCN/1/MI/ 19/001/1184)

- 30.09.2019 – 31.12.2020: Leader of the project entitled "Maintenance and development of the Oncological Biobank at the Medical University of Bialystok" (SUB/1/DN/19/001/1184)

- 01.04.2016 – 30.11.2018: Co-manager of the project entitled "Creation of a reference model of Personalized Diagnostics of Cancerous Tumors based on the analysis of tumor heterogeneity with the use of genomic biomarkers, transcriptome and metabolome as well as PET/MRI imaging tests as a tool for implementing and monitoring personalized therapy", acronym: MOBIT in the Biobank Support Team financed under the STRATEGMED competition 2 - National Center for Research and Development

- 30.09.2017 – 30.09.2018: Leader of the project entitled "Development of the biobanking system at the Medical University of Bialystok" (N/ST/ZB/16/007/1184)

- 30.09.2013 – 30.09.2015: Leader of the project funded by the pro-quality subsidy of the Leading National Research Center entitled "The prevalence of ESBL and AmpC-type resistance mechanisms among *Proteus mirabilis* clinical strains" (50 / KNOW / 2013)

- 20.05.2014 – 31.03.2015: Leader of the project for Ph.D. students and young scientists as part of their statutory activities (144-22822 F) - project entitled "Plasmid genes determining the resistance of *Proteus mirabilis* strains to aminoglycosides and fluoroquinolones "

- 20.05.2014 – 31.03.2015: Co-manager of the project as part of the statutory activity entitled "The role of *gyrA*, *gyrB*, *parC*, and *parE* genes as factors determining the resistance of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* to fluoroquinolone antibiotics"

Biobanking Interests

As Deputy Director of the Biobank at the Medical University of Bialystok, I focus on building robust, ethically governed biobanking infrastructures that enable reproducible translational research. My key interests are specimen and metadata quality assurance, harmonized SOPs, secure and GDPR/EHDS-aligned data sharing, and linking biobank collections with multi-omics and clinical datasets to accelerate biomarker discovery and AI-driven digital-twin applications in oncology and precision medicine. I am actively involved in interdisciplinary projects (clinical teams, molecular biology, pharmacy, and IT), curriculum development for biobanking education, and practical guidance for industry-academic collaboration to ensure responsible, scalable use of biospecimens in research and therapeutic development.

Professional Activities (ISBER and other)

ISBER Working Groups

2024.06 – present: ISBER Regional Ambassador Program for the Europe, the Middle East and Africa Region

2023.01 – present: Chair of the Future Conferences Task Force

2022.12 – present: Member of the Governance Committee

Co-author of the "Quality Management" chapter in the ISBER Best Practices, 5th Edition

Professional Societies and Volunteer Organizations related to biobanking

2022.09 – present: Member of the European, Middle Eastern & African Society for Biopreservation and Biobanking (ESBB)

Organizer or co-organizer of meetings/conferences:

- 21-23.04.2026: Shenzhen, China, ISBER 2026 Annual Meeting and Exhibits: member of the Program Planning Group, reviewer of Workshop and Abstract proposals

- 05-06.11.2024: St. Petersburg, FL, USA, ISBER 2024 Regional Meeting and Exhibits: member of the Program Planning Group, reviewer of Workshop and Abstract proposals

- 09-12.04.2024: Melbourne, Australia, ISBER 2024 Annual Meeting and Exhibits: member of the Program Planning Group, reviewer of Workshop and Abstract proposals
- 24-25.10.2023: Granada, Spain, ISBER 2023 Regional Symposium: member of the Program Planning Group, reviewer of Abstract proposals
- 03-06.05.2023: Seattle, USA, ISBER 2023 Annual Meeting and Exhibits: member of the Program Planning Group, member of 3A: Biobanking in Pharma and 3B: Data Management groups, reviewer of Workshop and Abstract proposals
- 26.11.2022: Bialystok, "A comprehensive approach to geriatric pharmacotherapy by the law of the elderly in Poland" Conference
- 01.04.2022: Graz, TEDx Med Uni Graz 2022
- 29.11-05.12.2021: Bialystok, ONCOweek: 3rd Podlasie Week of Prevention and Treatment of Cancer
- 30.11-06.12.2020: Bialystok, ONCOweek: 2nd Podlasie Week of Prevention and Treatment of Cancer
- 02-08.12.2019: Bialystok, ONCOweek: 1st Podlasie Week of Prevention and Treatment of Cancer
- 14-16.05.2015: Bialystok, 10th Bialystok International Medical Congress for Young Scientists
- 04.11.2014: Bialystok, IV Scientific and Training Meeting "Diagnostic and epidemiological aspects of EBV (Ebola) infections"
- 14.11.2013: Bialystok, 3rd Scientific and Training Meeting "Diagnostic and clinical aspects in infections of the central nervous system"

Editorial Boards

- Guest Editor for "Modern Approaches to Cancer Biobanking" Special Issue in Biopreservation and Biobanking
- Editor in "Glos Pacjenta Onkologicznego"

Other

Experience in conducting trainings:

- 13-15.10.2025 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "How to Operate a Biobank Sustainably Successful (Advanced Course)" at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 01-03.10.2025 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "How to Build a Biobank (Basic Course)" at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 28-30.04.2025 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "How to Operate a Biobank Sustainably Successful (Advanced Course)" at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 23-26.04.2024 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "How to Operate a Biobank" course at the King Abdullah International Medical Center and King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- 04-07.03.2024 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "How to Operate a Biobank (Advanced Course)" at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 26-27.02.2024 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "How to Build a Biobank (Basic Course)" at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 16-19.10.2023 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "Sustainability in Biobanking" course at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 02-06.10.2023 Lectures as part of the MSc (CE) Biobanking 3rd Face-to-Face Week at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 15-18.03.2023 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "How to Operate a Biobank Sustainably Successful (Advanced Course)" at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 13-14.03.2023 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "How to Build a Biobank (Basic Course)" at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 06-10.03.2023 Lectures as part of the MSc (CE) Biobanking 2nd Face-to-Face Week at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 12-16.09.2022 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "Managing Multidisciplinary Teams and Scientific Project in Biobanks course at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria

- 15-16.09.2022 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "Managing Multidisciplinary Teams and Scientific Projects in Biobanks" course at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 05-06.05.2022 Lectures and practical workshops as part of the "Managing Multidisciplinary Teams and Scientific Projects in Biobanks" course at Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria
- 05-08.02.2017 Training in biobanking of biological material collected from patients with ovarian cancer for the staff from the Gynecological Oncology Department of the Voivodeship Specialist Hospital in Olsztyn
- 18-20.10.2016 Training in biobanking of biological material collected from patients with breast cancer for the staff from the Department and Clinic of Oncology of the Medical University in Poznań
- 25-27.07.2016 and 29-31.08.2016 Training in biobanking of biological material collected from patients with lung cancer for staff from the Department of Thoracic Surgery of the Medical University in Poznan
- 22-25.08.2016 Training in biobanking of biological material collected from patients with lung cancer for staff from the Department of Thoracic Surgery, Medical University of Pavlov in St. Petersburg, Russia