



ISBER Elections Candidate Statement

Secretary

Anna Michalska-Falkowska

As Deputy Director of Quality Management at the Medical University of Bialystok Biobank, Clinical Team Coordinator at Crown Bioscience, Lecturer at the Medical University of Graz, and an active ISBER Regional Ambassador (EMEA), I bring practical, hands-on biobanking experience combined with expertise in governance, education, and international collaboration.

Over the past decade, I have led total quality management and LIMS implementations, molecular-based sample QC programmes (serum/plasma, FFPE, fresh-frozen), clinical data validation, and industry–academic partnerships (including long-term cooperation with Indivumed GmbH, now Crown Bioscience). I also co-edited the Quality Management and Terminology sections of the ISBER Best Practices (5th Edition) and currently serve on ISBER’s Governance Committee and as Chair of the Future Conferences Task Force.

If elected Secretary, I will prioritize clear, efficient governance and transparent communication, enabling ISBER’s Board and Members to focus on science, standards, and capacity building.

Concretely, I will:

- ensure accurate and timely documentation of decisions and actions, while maintaining accessible records that support institutional memory and accountability,
- strengthen internal coordination among committees, regional ambassadors, and member-led initiatives to reduce duplication and accelerate implementation of Best Practices,
- improve Member engagement by supporting multilingual and regionally tailored communications and by expanding training opportunities—especially for early-career professionals and smaller biobanks in under-resourced regions,
- promote the digital transformation of society processes (secure shared platforms for minutes, archives, and working documents) while safeguarding data governance and compliance.

My strengths include organizational discipline, extensive international experience in education and project leadership (Erasmus+, BBMRI-ERIC Polish Node, academic–industry consortia), and a deep practical understanding of quality systems that underpin reproducible research.

I would be honoured to serve as ISBER Secretary and to help keep our society nimble, inclusive, and focused on enabling high-quality biobanking worldwide.

Thank you for your support.