



## **ISBER Elections Candidate Statement Director-At-Large: Americas Region Dianne Chadwick**

I remember attending my first ISBER Annual Meeting. It was in May, 2011 in Arlington, VA, USA, just a few months into my new career as a biobanker. I was immediately impressed by the warmth of the ISBER members from around the world, as well as their willingness to connect and share expertise. Fast forward, I now have over ten years' experience as a biobank leader, educator and active member of ISBER, and it is an honour to be nominated for the position of Director-At-Large Americas.

Biobank and repository operations are essential for research. We have subject matter expertise, demonstrate high operational quality and curate diverse, irreplaceable collections. While some of us focus on disease-based biobanking, others specialize in accruing samples and data from population cohorts, companion animals, or from plants and animals in nature. Regardless of the scope of our operations, we all face similar challenges such as rapid technological change and financial sustainability. How do we meet the needs of evolving research without stable long-term funding to support our programs?

If elected, I will use my biobanking expertise to help execute ISBER's mission, vision, and strategic plan. I will leverage my experience as biobank Director and ISBER Regional Ambassador (Americas) to promote the value of biobanking to stakeholders and engage prospective new ISBER members from diverse biobank disciplines. To help advance ISBER education initiatives, I will draw from my roles as coordinator of a graduate course on biobanking, contributor to ISBER Best Practices and invited speaker at conferences. And I will apply skills developed through my involvement on ISBER Program committees and leading the formation of a biobank network to contribute to innovative ISBER events and organizational excellence. I am excited by the possibility of serving on the Board and being a part of advancing ISBER's strong legacy of inclusion, collaboration and global biobanking excellence. Thank you for your consideration.