It is with much gratitude that I am writing this report with an added title on me “travel award winner 2015”, fully registered in ISBER records of history. I thank ISBER training committee for this opportunity to offer me such a prestigious award to attend the 2015 annual meeting and exhibits.

“ISBER is a professional society of individuals and organizations who share an interest in promoting consistent, high quality standards, ethical principles and innovation in biospecimen banking by uniting the global biobanking community”, visionary where the founding members!

I came to know about ISBER and the travel award opportunity through a colleague and being a newly assigned Bio repository manager, I made an application. Little did I know that Biobanking is such a rich profession. The scientific presentations and the 2015 Biopreservation and Biobanking journal and the tour at the institute of the Bio design institute at Arizona State University were all mesmerizing. I cannot rule out a fellowship opportunity with the institute in future and with my dream of starting a biorepository, the tour gave me a clear roadmap.

In my country Uganda, a number of research projects in the six ISBER biobanking categories are going on, but honestly the awareness of ISBER and the benefits of being part of such a global society is little known if at all the acronym has been heard of.

Among all the presentations made I cannot forget the concept of the “glass transition temperature” ($T_g$) and its effect on biological specimens (pre-conference workshop 1A). The presentation on “Biobanking and Biosafety containment in the midst of a highly contagious dangerous BSL4 category pathogen outbreak”(By Emmanuel Akinola Abayomi-SA) was challenging scholars and the international community/governments at large to do more ‘home work’ given the facts from the West Africa Ebola outbreak in the recent past.

I cannot forget the great exhibitors whose innovations/discoveries are putting a building block the biobanking industry. I realised automation is the way to go if sample integrity and or quality control and assurance are to be ensured.

With the new ideas and contacts established from this meeting am seeing my dream of establishing a biorepository coming true. It is not easy to start but with the contacts established with various biobanking professions, support and guidance shall see a rich biorepository in the East African region based in Uganda sooner than later. I have also scheduled myself to subscribe subscriber to the individual membership before the Berlin meeting in 2016 and/or bring with at least one cooperate/individual member on-board. One Makerere University senior lecturer (phd) at the College of veterinary medicine, animal resources and biosecurity has already expressed interest.