

## ISBER 2019 TRAVEL AWARDEE REPORT

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### **Tuesday, 07 May –**

Home, homeland, travelling troubles, flight and airports are left behind. Here we are in China. Ni hao, Shanghai! Ni hao, ISBER 2019! My exciting and educational travelling started from the very pleasant moment: acquaintance with ISBER Community. Friendly, warm and relaxed atmosphere of communication with Meeting participants.

The first day of the Conference and my first impression – perfect organization, exact action sequence, all the bases are covered.

On this day the most important issues of next generation biobanking were discussed at first Plenary Symposium: the way from the simple collection and storage of biosamples to standardization and best practices. Considerable attention was paid to issues of regulatory activity and biobanks cooperation in different parts of the world on Symposium: Regional Regulations: Global Implications.

The end of working day but we were not tired at all: it was so interesting that we want to get more and more information. The day was finished with sharing experience of Biobankers from all over the world during the Poster Presentation Session.

### **Wednesday, 08 May –**

Reports of the second day of the Meeting at Biobank Utilization Symposium impressed me greatly. I'd like to particularly note Marianne Henderson from the National Cancer Institute with her report "Sustainability and Utilization in Biobanking: Time for a Change?".

This day I also had an opportunity to attend Workshop on Biobank Standards and ISO. I'd like to highlight presentation by Clare Allocca from the National Institute of Standards and Technology related to Approaches to Biobank Quality.

After this activity – Contributed Paper Session – where experts discussed hot topics of Ethical and Social Issues, which are extremely important to my routinely daily practice.

The day ended up with active discussion at Poster Networking Event.

**Thursday, 09 May –**

Today we have received new knowledge on Educational Workshops “Introduction to Business Planning for Biorepositories”, which became very informative and helped to see profoundly into the issues of biobank establishment. I discovered modern principles of Vision and Mission formulation, SWOT Analysis and SMART Metrics.

I have attended amazing Contributed Paper Session on Biobanking Practices Across the World: open and informative discussion for comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach to biobank management.

And now the last evening together – ISBER Networking Dinner: exciting moment of communication; thankful words to Hosts, Organizers and Volunteers.

**Friday, 10 May –**

The day was devoted to Biospecimen Quality & Research and Special Topic of Living Biobanks. Today we have discovered much of new information about CRC, PDX, iPSC platforms in biobanking activity.

It's time to say goodbye and come back home. I'd like to express gratitude for this opportunity to become a part of the Meeting and thank for invaluable experience. I hurry up to return to Ukraine, to my home city and share new knowledge with my colleagues. Attending ISBER Annual Meeting will aid in reaching and implementing for my goals concerning the improvement of Biobanking in Ukraine, which in it's current state needs to be advanced and updated to world standards.

It was a great honor for me to meet ISBER President David Lewandowski, President-Elect Debra Leiolani Garcia, Past-President Zisis Kozlakidis. I'd like to express special thanks for the warm welcome and adaptation within the

organization to Dee McGarvey, Rose Redfield, Marianne Henderson, Piper Mullins and Susan Wong.

Taking this opportunity and taking into account the fact that Travel Award Program participants come from resource-limited settings – I'd like to ask ISBER to include free 1-year membership for future Travel Awardees so that they will be able to disseminate the Strategy, Ideas and Best Practices in their communities as official ISBER members.

Thanks so much for a brilliant Meeting! Amazing experience of professional expertise and great time spent together in Shanghai!

You were instrumental in so much change and a lot of fun to enjoy, learn and talk with every step of the Biobanking way.

Greatly appreciate your support!

Sincerely yours,  
Anna Piddubna

