



ISBER Elections Candidate Statement Treasurer

Jane Carpenter

I have a background in diagnostic pathology – specialising in paediatric haematology.

I cut my biobanking teeth in 2002 as Tumour Bank Officer at the Children’s Hospital, Westmead before taking on the challenge of establishing, developing and operating the Australian Breast Cancer Tissue Bank.

In 2013 I moved to the NSW Government to work on State-wide biobanking strategies, which subsequently included the commissioning of a \$12million biobank.

I am currently exploring requirements for Microbial Biobanking (bacteria, fungi, viruses, bacteriophages) linked to health records.

I am passionate about creating a professional, educated, high-quality workforce for biorepositories and believe the key to this is through education and training, especially of those new to the field. I think a standalone biobanking qualification (currently under development by ISBER/ASCP) is the logical next step.

I am interested in quality improvement and have been involved with the development of ISO20387. Locally I led the adaptation and delivery of a NSW biobanking certification program.

I have seen many changes and advances in the field and believe as biobankers we need to look at our operational models to strive for effectiveness, efficiency and improve sustainability.

I am also interested in the consumer’s viewpoint of our discipline and consider our donors our most valuable asset. We need to work closely not just with those donating their biological samples, but with those representing environmental fields and be as broad in our reach as possible.

I have been involved with ISBER for many years and understand the financial mechanisms for the operation of the society.

I have substantial financial expertise from my daily work, running numerous programs and being responsible for large budgets, including planning costs, personnel, financial evaluation of equipment, operational budgets etc. I have also written successful finance applications for funding and business plans for government.

I see the role of ISBER Treasurer as a valuable one that will take fiscal care of our Society and lead it into the next phase of development on a secure financial foundation. I also think we should listen to our membership and contain costs where appropriate and possible, to ensure the society delivers value for money to our members.

That being said, if expenditure is required to drive us in a particular direction for the benefit of the organization, then we should not shy away from making tough financial decisions if it is in the best interests of ISBER.