

## ISBER Elections Biosketch President-Elect (2020 - 2023)

First Name	Last Name																			
Piper	Mullins																			
Degree (if applicable)																				
M.S. Information Sciences																				
Current Position and Institution																				
Program Manager, Pan-Smithsonian Cryo-Initiative, Smithsonian Institution																				
Education and Experience																				
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 45%;">Experience</th><th style="width: 30%;">Institution</th><th style="width: 25%;">Years</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>• Treasurer</td><td>ISBER</td><td>2017-present</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Program Manager, Cryo-Initiative</td><td>Smithsonian Institution</td><td>2011-present</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Master of Science, Information Sciences</td><td>University of Tennessee (UT), USA</td><td>2010</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Research Assistant (Federal Science Repository Service)</td><td>Information International Associates</td><td>2010</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Research Assistant</td><td>DataOne, UT/Oak Ridge National Lab node</td><td>2009</td></tr> </tbody> </table>			Experience	Institution	Years	• Treasurer	ISBER	2017-present	• Program Manager, Cryo-Initiative	Smithsonian Institution	2011-present	• Master of Science, Information Sciences	University of Tennessee (UT), USA	2010	• Research Assistant (Federal Science Repository Service)	Information International Associates	2010	• Research Assistant	DataOne, UT/Oak Ridge National Lab node	2009
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<p>Ms. Mullins is the Program Manager for the Pan-Smithsonian Cryo-Initiative, where she manages the development of the Smithsonian biorepository program to integrate, standardize, and manage information systems and frozen collections (i.e. biobanks). This network of frozen collections includes a wide variety of non-human samples, from zoo animals to museum tissues to environmental soil samples and plant seeds. Currently, she is co-leading the establishment of a Quality Management System and database implementation for Smithsonian's newest biorepository facility at the Conservation Biology Institute.</p> <p>She is also responsible for creating and maintaining a resource allocation program for individual departments to gain access to institutional biobank management resources, such as purchasing freezers and hiring technicians. She leads a cross-departmental team to consolidate freezer maintenance tasks into a centralized contract that has saved the Institution thousands of US dollars annually. In addition, she heads collaborative projects for biobank guidelines development and implementation across the Institution to increase efficiency and standards.</p> <p>As ISBER Treasurer, Ms. Mullins oversees the ISBER budget and chairs the Finance Committee. Under her supervision, ISBER has grown its investment income, increased its surplus fund for strategic outreach, and successfully developed processes to include Committee needs in the budget.</p>																				

## Biobanking Interests

Ms. Mullins came to the Smithsonian in 2011 to manage the growing Smithsonian biorepository network of frozen collections (i.e. biobanks). Her interests encompass her experience with non-human biological repositories, as well as her experience with general repository management, informatics, standard operating procedures, and biobanking operations and budgets.

Her interests include:

- Biodiversity banks
- Animal biorepositories
- Environmental and plant repositories
- Repository Management
- Informatics
- Quality Management Systems and standard operating procedures
- Biobanking Operations
- Budget and Finance

Ms. Mullins' personal experience with biobanking standards, operations resources and budget, and program management have focused not only on the daily operations needs but also on the financial and social implications any project may have on human, animal, and plant biobanking. Financial, organizational, and social aspects of a biobank are inevitably linked to its sustainability and long-term success. As such, she strives to connect scattered biobank users and stakeholders to understand biobanking operations and research needs and serves as biobank advocate within and for her organizations.

## Professional Activities (ISBER and other)

### ISBER Working Groups & Committees

- Chair (as Treasurer), Finance Committee, 2017-present
- Member, Finance Committee, 2016-2017
- Chair, Veterinary Biobank Education webinar task force, 2017-present
- Co-Chair, Membership and Marketing Committee, 2015-2017
- Member, Member Relations Committee, 2017-present
- Chair, Enviro-Bio Working Group, 2013-present
- Member, Informatics Working Group, 2012-present

Ms. Mullins has been an active member of several ISBER committees for several years. She spearheaded the project to update the Marketing Plan, which included plans for membership drives and marketing campaigns.

Ms. Mullins also leads projects to develop webinar content for ISBER. Currently, she is producing a 9-module webinar series on veterinary biobanking education, available on [isber.org](http://isber.org). In 2016, she led the Enviro-Bio Working Group, and successfully developed their first webinar, "The Accidental Biobanker".

## Professional Societies and Volunteer Organizations related to biobanking

Member, ISBER-ASCP biobanking qualification exam working group  
Member, ISBER-ISO 276 task force, to represent animal and plant biobanks

Participant, Enviro-Bio group of the European, Middle Eastern and African Society for Biopreservation and Biobanking (ESBB)

### Organizer or co-organizer of meetings/conferences:

Ms. Mullins served alongside Dr. Zisis Kozlakidis as co-Chair of the ISBER 2015 Scientific Program Committee, and has co-chaired many sessions at ISBER Annual meetings since 2013.

She is currently an advisor organizing member on the 2017 Workshop on Veterinary Biobank Standard. She has acted as local advisor to the CTFS One Health Alliance (COHA) biobanking subcommittee meeting and facilitated sessions on biodiversity biobanking at the International Union of the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) meeting.

### Editorial Boards

Ms. Mullins is regularly asked to review enviro-bio manuscripts for *Biopreservation and Biobanking*.

### Other

Ms. Mullins is a liaison to the U.S. Department of State at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in the Nagoya Protocol meetings, where she represents biobank research interests and the Smithsonian.

#### *Selected peer-publications:*

Castelhano, Marta G., Creevy, Kate E., and Mullins, Piper F. 2018. "How veterinary biobanking provides opportunities to accelerate research." *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 253 (10):1243–1244. <https://doi.org/10.2460/javma.253.10.1243>

Mullins, Piper, Pugh, Rebecca and Vaught, Jim. 2015. "Following up on ISBER 2015: Call for Environmental Biobanking Papers." *Biopreservation and Biobanking* 229-230. <https://doi.org/10.1089/bio.2015.29013.pm>