

ISBER Elections Biosketch President-Elect

First Name	Last Name	
Alison	Parry-Jones	
Degree (if applicable)		
PhD, MA, BSc		

Current position and institution

Operations Director, Wales Cancer Bank, Cardiff University

Education and Experience

Alison's undergraduate degree and PhD are both in Chemistry and before moving into project management she worked in bioanalytical laboratories specialising in phase I and II clinical research. She has extensive project management experience in academia and is a PRINCE2 registered practitioner. Alison has a specific interest in ethical and legal issues and in 2012 successfully completed an MA in Medical Ethics and Law. She has been the operational lead of the Wales Cancer Bank (WCB) since its inception in 2004 and has built the biobank into a thriving resource supporting cancer research around the world.

Biobanking Interests

As the Operations Director of the Wales Cancer Bank (WCB), Alison is responsible for the operational management of the biobank from its base at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff, UK. She is the Designated Individual on the WCB licence issued by the Human Tissue Authority under the UK Human Tissue Act and is therefore responsible for the legal compliance and governance of the biobank across the WCB collection sites in Wales. She is also the lead on the biobank's ethics approval from the UK Health Departments' Research Ethics Service.

Her specific interests lie in raising awareness of biobanking with the public, ethical and legal issues and sustainability. She is a very active participant in public engagement and is working locally and nationally to spread the biobanking message. Alison has published on crisis management in biobanking as well as sustainability. She is a member of the Steering committee for the UK Clinical Research Collaboration's Tissue Directory and Coordination Centre and has acted as a consultant for biobank start-ups.

She attended her first ISBER meeting in Perugia in 2004 and has been a regular and active member since, as a member of various committees and latterly as the Director-at-Large for Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Professional Activities (ISBER and other)

ISBER Working Groups

Dr Parry-Jones currently serves as a member of the ISBER Governance, Nominating and Science Policy Committees and was previously a member of the Membership and Marketing Committee and Scientific program Committees for various annual and regional ISBER meetings.

Alison is a member of the qualification review and exam board (1 of 2 European representatives) responsible for developing, delivering and monitoring the 'Qualification in Biorepository Science' developed by the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification in partnership with ISBER.



Professional Societies and Volunteer Organizations related to biobanking

Alison has been a member of the European, Middle Eastern and African Society for Biopreservation and Biobanking (ESBB) since it began and attends and participates regularly in their annual conferences.

She was previously one of two UK representatives on the common service ELSI team for the European BBMRI-ERIC consortium, and is an Executive member of the Marble Arch international biobank leaders' group.

The Wales Cancer Bank was a founder member of the UK Confederation of Cancer Biobanks and Alison was an Executive group member and contributed to the working group that drafted the biobank standard published in 2014.

Organizer or co-organizer of meetings/conferences:

Alison co-chaired the 2017 Scientific Program Committee for the Toronto ISBER Annual meeting. She was a member of the Scientific Program Committee for the first joint ESBB/BBMRI Europe Biobank week conference in 2016 and has chaired or been a member on a number of other organizing committees for local and national workshops and conferences, including the 2021 Qatar biobanking conference. These include, amongst others, public engagement events for schoolchildren and adults, workshops for the UK Confederation of Cancer Biobanks and local cancer conferences in Wales.

Editorial Boards

Alison is a regular reviewer on several peer-reviewed journals including Biopreservation and Biobanking, Cell and Tissue Banking and PlosOne.

Other

Alison is a member of Cardiff University's School of Medicine Research Ethics Committee and is also a member of Genomics Consent Task and Finish group for Genomics Partnership Wales.