



ISBER Elections Candidate Statement President-Elect

Alison Parry-Jones

As the current ISBER Director-at-Large (DAL) for Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA) it has been my privilege to work on the ISBER Board to represent the region and contribute to the great work being done by members throughout the society. I feel I have developed a good understanding of the organisation and would like to have the opportunity to consolidate and develop this further through the President role.

Over the coming years, I would like to see ISBER continue to thrive as an organisation and work to further expand its global reach. The international membership has grown steadily, and the organisation has benefited enormously from the increased diversity of members, their knowledge and experiences. I am particularly proud of having initiated and developed the Regional Ambassador (RA) program as part of my DAL role. The program gives the opportunity for the regional voice to be heard and to increase ISBER's scope and range through increased local awareness of the organisation via the RAs. I would like to expand on this concept and investigate how ISBER could facilitate greater cross region activity either through mentorship or 'twinning' programmes to support emerging and evolving biobanks around the world.

ISBER's global membership reflects biobanks with varied and sometimes challenging biobanking needs due to geography, culture or funding. I feel it is important to work closely with other organisations to ensure the biobanking community is well served without duplication of effort and resources. Each organisation has its own unique strengths and together the biobanking voice is stronger. Identifying potential collaborative opportunities to work with others will help to streamline activity, support a more focused use of ISBER's resources and allow the society to concentrate on ISBER's areas of strength.

I think the organisation has a role to play in education and helping biobankers to prosper, both within their organisations and as new, emerging leaders for ISBER's future. Increasing awareness of ISBER and the availability of the great practical tools and resources it has to offer, especially around education, training and best practices, should be a priority for the organisation. With the implementation of the new strategic plan, the next few years promise an exciting evolution of the organisation to ensure a professional, well-structured society best placed to serve the membership and further the discipline of biobanking. I would be honoured to be part of the leadership to deliver this vision.