



International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories

9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814-3993 (USA)

Tel: 301-634-7949, Fax: 301-634-7990, Email: isber@asip.org, Web: www.isber.org

M.E. Sobel, MD, PhD
Executive Officer
mesobel@asip.org

May 9, 2012

For Immediate Release...

**Heather M. Siefers
is elected 2012-2013 Secretary-Treasurer Elect of the
International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories**

Bethesda, MD – Heather M. Siefers has been elected to serve as Secretary-Treasurer Elect of the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER) in 2012-2013. ISBER is governed through a nine-member Council, reflecting the entire membership with representation from government, academia, and private industry. Ms. Siefers has been elected to serve as Secretary-Treasurer Elect of the Society in 2012-2013, and will take over the duties as ISBER Secretary-Treasurer Elect upon conclusion of the ISBER 2012 Annual Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on May 18, 2012. Ms. Siefers will take over as ISBER Secretary-Treasurer at the ISBER 2013 Annual Meeting in Sydney, Australia, which will be held May 5-8, 2013. Ms. Siefers is currently the Senior Manager, Clinical Supplies and Specimen Management at Aeras. She is a Master's candidate in Environmental Biology and has 12 years' experience managing biorepository collections. Ms. Siefers also holds IATA/DOT Dangerous Goods Certification.

Ms. Siefers' biobanking interests through ISBER include: Cryogenics/Cell Preservation, Human Specimen Repositories, Legal and Ethical Issues, Green Repositories, and Environmental Repositories. Her professional activities related to biobanking (ISBER and other) include serving on the ISBER Marketing Committee, the ISBER Website Subcommittee, and providing input as an Environmental Biospecimen Working Group Member. Ms. Siefers also organized the "ISBER Meet-a-Member" Campaign, and participated in the coordination of the "ISBER New Product Award."

According to Ms. Siefers, she has "been an active member in ISBER since 2005, participating in each of the annual meetings, serving on the Marketing Committee and establishing mechanisms to increase ISBER's reach in the life sciences community. As the Senior Manager at Aeras, I have both operational and fiscal oversight responsibilities for collections ranging in size from a few hundred specimens to over 5 million, which has prepared me for taking on the responsibilities of the ISBER Secretary-Treasurer role." Ms. Siefers feels it is an "honor to expand (her) service to the ISBER community!"

The **International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories** (ISBER) creates opportunities for sharing ideas internationally and harmonizing approaches to evolving challenges in biobanking and repository operation. ISBER fosters collaborations, creates education and training opportunities, and provides an international showcase for state-of-the-art research findings and cutting edge technologies, products, and services. Together, these activities promote best practices that cut across the broad range of repositories that ISBER serves. ISBER is a division of the American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP), a nonprofit educational organization. For more information visit the ISBER website at www.isber.org.

###