

ISBT  
ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2012-2013

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### Corporate Members

ISBT is pleased to acknowledge the following Corporate Partners

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#### Gold



# Foreword from the President

The highlight of the last year was undoubtedly the Congress in Cancun in July. 1906 delegates came together for a successful and scientifically stimulating meeting. Thanks go to Dr Julio César Martínez Álvarez, Congress President, his team and to everyone who played a part making it such a success.

July also marked the final resolution of the legal challenge relating to the elections that took place in 2010 with the Dutch higher court finding in ISBT's favour and the appointment of a new Board.

The Society finances remain good with a significant surplus for the year. Changes in Dutch tax rules raised the possibility that ISBT would be subject to corporate tax on any surpluses. This was a significant change to the position in earlier years. Considerable efforts have been devoted to managing this with the emphasis being on a review of the role and governance arrangements for the ISBT Foundation. I am pleased to report that this has been largely successful. The Dutch tax authorities have now agreed that the ISBT Board can retain a controlling influence on the activities of the Foundation including decisions on how funds are distributed. This will allow surpluses to be safely transferred to the Foundation in the confidence that they can then be used to further the overall goals of the society.

The overall strategic direction for the society had been agreed when the Board met in Estoril in Portugal in 2011. During November 2012 the Board met to define short and medium term priorities. Two distinct themes emerged from this process. The first related to communication. A membership report undertaken earlier in the year identified a range of issues. Interestingly this included a lack of awareness amongst members and industry around the wider activities of ISBT. We were seen by many as 'just a congress organisation'. The Board concluded that this was potentially a significant barrier to future success and decided to initiate a thorough review of our communication systems. An external consultant has been appointed to progress this. The second theme related to education and e-learning. This will be a major focus for ISBT over the next several years. The first step will be to develop a repository of guidelines, standards and regulations within the website. This will aim to improve accessibility for members. Significant progress has already occurred and this should go live before the end of 2013. A review of the activities of the ISBT Academy will also take place. Last, but not least, a structured plan for the development of an e-learning capability will be developed. Details of this are provided below.

Multilearning, a Canadian company, was contracted to create a series of webcasts from presentations given during the Congress in Cancun. Feedback on this initiative has been very positive. A request for tender was subsequently issued with the intention of developing a long term partnership to progress the programme. Multilearning was subsequently chosen as the preferred supplier and will be developing a dedicated e-portal for ISBT in time for the congress in Amsterdam. The webcast programme will continue to be developed with the addition of specific CME/CPD opportunities. This exciting initiative is the first step in a larger plan to develop an e-learning capability. This will be a multi-year project that will improve significantly the package that ISBT offers to its members and hopefully in time lead to an increase in membership.

In 2010 when assuming the presidency, Silvano Wendel initiated a project to develop the history of the society. This will document the people, activities and events that have defined ISBT. Initial work focussed on a review of the archives held in Central Office. Hans Erik Heier, ISBT President 2002-2004, has agreed to help move this forward.

The future success of ISBT will increasingly depend on the work undertaken by the Central Office team. Currently there are 3 people employed by the Society along with a contracted part-time accountant. A new position that will support the work of the Foundation and the Academy will be appointed during this year. The Board is committed to supporting the team and has initiated a review of the sizes and appropriate remuneration for the roles. It is important that we retain and develop the staff in order to enable them to help us to move the Society forward. We are a society of volunteers with a common interest in promoting transfusion medicine and science. I recognise the unseen efforts of many and the importance that these play in assuring the Society as a leader in the field. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the success of the Society.

**Peter Flanagan**



# Foreword from the Secretary General

This report covers the period from April 1 2012 to March 31 2013. The main activities of the Society in that period are listed below.

- The International Congress, held in Cancun, Mexico in July 2012, was extremely successful, with 1906 delegates from 92 countries. Many thanks to Congress President Dr Julio César Martínez Álvarez and his colleagues, to Martin Olsson the Scientific Secretary, and to the Scientific Committee for making the congress such a success.
- Following a bidding process, the ISBT Board awarded the 2015 European Regional Congress to London, UK.
- Only one bid was made for the 2015 non-European Regional Congress. The ISBT Board decided to delay making a decision on the location of this congress, or whether there would be a non-European Regional Congress in 2015.
- In 2012 the ISBT held elections for some Board positions. Silvano Wendel retired as President and was replaced by Peter Flanagan. Celso Bianco was elected President Elect, Diana Teo Vice President, Steve Morgan Treasurer, and Bridon M'baya, Claudio Velati, Neelam Marwaha, and Masahiro Satake Regional Directors. Many thanks to the outgoing Directors.
- At the Cancun Congress the following awards were made.

The first ISBT Developing Country Award to the Sri Lankan National Blood Transfusion Service.

The Jean Julliard Award to Peter Horn from Germany for his work on in vitro generation of patient-specific cellular blood products.

The ISBT Award to Héctor Rodríguez Moyado (Mexico), Marion Reid (USA), and Joyce Poole (UK).

ISBT Honorary membership to Shigeru Takamoto from Japan, ISBT President from 2006 – 2008.

The Vox Sanguinis Best Paper Prize to John-Paul Tung and his co-authors for their paper on an in vivo ovine model of TRALI.

- Some of the plenary lectures at the International Congress were provided to members as webcasts on the ISBT website. This was very successful, so, after a bidding process, the ISBT Executive awarded a contract to the same company to provide

webcasts of selected sessions at all future congresses and to develop an e-learning portal where the webcasts and other material will be accessible.

- During 2012/2013 the ISBT Scientific Secretary and the Scientific Committee have been preparing an excellent programme for the 2013 European Regional Congress in Amsterdam, the Netherlands in June. They are also beginning to plan for the Asian Regional Congress in Kuala Lumpur in November.
- The ISBT Academy supported 12 activities in 12 countries.
- During 2012/13, the ISBT membership numbers fell slightly to 1310 members. Membership fees were unchanged.
- In 2012 a small writing group prepared drafts of updated ISBT statutes and by-laws. These drafts were discussed in Cancún, in a meeting open to Society members, and were then made available for consultation on the ISBT website. Eventually, taking into account the comments of ISBT members and legal advisors, new drafts were posted on the website together with a resolution for approval at the General Assembly in June.
- In 2010 a process of litigation against the ISBT was instigated through the Court of Amsterdam for alleged irregularities in the voting procedures during the 2010 elections. Although the District Court ruled in favour of the ISBT, the plaintiff appealed this ruling. During the Cancun congress we were informed that the Superior Court in Amsterdam had again ruled in favour of ISBT and the whole sorry saga was over.
- Vox Sanguinis, the Society's journal, had another successful year, the first with Dana Devine as Editor-in-Chief.
- ISBT supported 2012 Blood Donor Day, launched in South Korea.
- The 14 ISBT Working Parties continued to be active throughout 2012/2013.

**Geoff Daniels**



# Board of Directors

June 2010 – July 2012

## Executive Committee:

President	Silvano Wendel, Brazil
President Elect	Peter Flanagan, New Zealand
Senior Vice President	Anne Husebekk, Norway
Junior Vice President	Roger Dodd, USA
Past President	Erhard Seifried, Germany
Secretary General	Geoff Daniels, UK
Treasurer	Steve Morgan, UK

## Members of the Board representing WHO Regions:

Africa	Ravi Reddy, South Africa
North America	Amalia Bravo Lindoro, Mexico
South America	Oscar Torres, Argentina
Eastern Europe	Eugene Zhiburt, Russia
Eastern Mediterranean	Salwa Ibrahim Hindawi, Saudi Arabia
South East Asia	Neelam Marwaha, India
Western Pacific	Erica Wood, Australia
Western Europe	Diana Teo, Singapore
	Jean-Pierre Allain, UK

July 2012 – June 2014

## Executive Committee:

President	Peter Flanagan, New Zealand
President Elect	Celso Bianco, USA
Senior Vice President	Roger Dodd, USA
Junior Vice President	Diana Teo, Singapore
Past President	Silvano Wendel, Brazil
Secretary General	Geoff Daniels, UK
Treasurer	Steve Morgan, UK

## Members of the Board representing WHO Regions:

Africa	Bridon M'baya, Malawi
Northern Americas	Amalia Bravo Lindoro, Mexico
Southern Americas	Oscar Torres, Argentina
Eastern Europe	Eugene Zhiburt, Russia
Western Europe	Claudio Velati, Italy
Eastern Mediterranean	Salwa Ibrahim Hindawi, Saudi Arabia
South East Asia	Neelam Marwaha, India
Western Pacific	Erica Wood, Australia
	Masahiro Satake, Japan

# Membership

## Membership 2012-2013

**MEMBERSHIP PER END OF MEMBERSHIP YEAR (31/12 2005 - 2010, 31/3 FOR 2011-12 AND 2012/13)**

### 1. TOTAL MEMBERSHIP PER END OF MEMBERSHIP YEAR \*

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011-12	2012-13
INDIVIDUAL	805	987	1205	1343	1422	2030	1680	1219
AFFILIATED	27	23	23	18	22	17	16	14
EXEMPT	14	18	30	42	69	84	49	55
HONORARY	25	23	24	23	27	24	22	22
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>1051</b>	<b>1282</b>	<b>1426</b>	<b>1540</b>	<b>2155</b>	<b>1767</b>	<b>1310</b>

\* Until 2010 ISBT membership years ended on 31 December.

From 2011 on, the membership year is from 1 April until 31 March of the next year.

The membership year 2011 was a longer year, because it ran from 1 January 2011 until 31 March 2012.

### 2. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP PER WHO REGION PER END OF MEMBERSHIP YEAR:

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012-13
AFRICA	25	38	41	33	59	51	50	43
AMERICAS	206	220	244	267	252	287	310	287
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN	29	55	71	77	85	127	78	47
EUROPE	395	474	571	597	719	819	841	566
SOUTH EAST ASIA	43	56	88	117	86	81	76	58
WESTERN PACIFIC	107	144	190	252	221	665	325	218
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>1205</b>	<b>1343</b>	<b>1422</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>1680</b>	<b>1219</b>

# Congress

- 
- 32nd International Congress of the ISBT;  
Cancun, Mexico 2012

# 32nd International Congress of the ISBT

Cancun, Mexico 2012



**Julio César Martínez Álvarez**  
Congress President

The 32nd International Congress of the ISBT was held from July 7 -12, 2012 in the Cancun Convention Centre, Mexico and was hosted by the Mexican professional community of blood transfusion represented by the “Asociación Mexicana de Medicina Transfusional AC” - AMMTAC - (Mexican Association of Transfusion Medicine) who also held its 10th congress.

With 1906 delegates from different countries the congress was well attended. The congress created great opportunities for Mexico in terms of growth in the field of transfusion medicine, an introduction to technological advances and learning opportunities from meetings and share exchange information with colleagues from around the world through workshops and working party meetings. This resulted in helping to correct mistakes and implement new strategies in different areas such as:

- recruiting donors; to attract more altruistic donors
- in blood safety; to use the blood components in a correct way

The Cancun congress was characterised by a strong and high level academic programme thanks to Martin Olson scientific secretary. Top speakers attended the sessions and shared knowledge about topics of great importance and interest for delegates. The following topics were covered by the speakers:

- Adverse effects of transfusion,
- Cellular therapies,
- Donation and blood components
- Clinical use of blood
- Immunobiology of blood cells
- ISBT Academy Day
- Donor recruitment in the ISBT / ADRP workshop
- Organisation of blood establishments and blood management
- Spanish educational day

875 high-level scientific abstracts were submitted of which 86 were selected for oral presentation.

The social programme began on Sunday 8 with the

Opening Ceremony. Silvano Wendel welcome by Silvano Wendel (President of the ISBT), welcomed all the delegates followed by Julio Martínez Álvarez (Congress President). The Talking Stick was presented by Silvano Wendel to Julio Martínez Álvarez. The opening ceremony ended with a Mayan show which displayed the Mayan culture together with a mixture of dance and music. Last but not least, the opening of the trade exhibition took place. Delegates had the chance to get acquainted with the 69 exhibitors whilst enjoying drinks and snacks.

The congress party was a well organised informal get together full of Mexican colour and flavour. Delegates and exhibitors enjoyed music, dance, games and traditional Mexican food and in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.



# Financial Summary



The year was marked by the ISBT's International Congress in Cancun. The financial success of this event helped the society to increase its cash position from € 2.7m to € 2.9m, and make a donation to the ISBT Foundation of € 190k.

**Steve Morgan, Treasurer**

## Revenue

The Cancun Congress realised a healthy surplus of € 447k, after accounting for the fees paid to congress organiser MCI Amsterdam, and the amount shared with the local organising committee (40%).

Individual ISBT membership fees fell from € 145k to € 128k, reflecting perhaps a year in which there was only one congress event.

Corporate member fees rose from € 85k to € 110k with the acquisition of a fourth corporate partner. The budget for 2013-14 assumes that a further partner will be secured, and that income will increase to € 131k, despite the economic environment which remains challenging. Royalties from Vox Sanguinis were relatively stable at € 216k, advertising income (Transfusion Today) increased to € 70k from € 59k, and bank interest income rose by 12%, commensurate with the larger cash balances.

ISBT was again grateful for a donation from the International Council for Commonality in Blood Banking Automation (ICCBBA), the donation will be used by the Clinical Working Party to support the development of a clinical use of blood App for bedside use.

## Expenditure

The financial year marked the first year the Society operated as fully self-sufficient organisation. The benefits which will be seen by members and sponsors were well worth the investment of moving to its own facility and hiring its own staff.

The Society increased its investment in Academy events, spending € 78k (2012 - € 31k) on a range of programmes, and it supported a number of the Working Parties.

The Society invested a further € 32,000 in strategic advice and implementation during the year, utilising a firm of external consultants. The benefits continue to be realised, with increasing numbers of corporate partners as mentioned, and a renewed focus by the Society on

educational activities with global reach.

Thankfully, the dispute about ISBT's handling of the 2010 Board elections has now been settled. The 2011-2012 Annual Report noted that Ausbio had decided to appeal for a second (and final) time. In July 2012 the court in Amsterdam ruled in favour of ISBT and ordered Ausbio to repay a portion of ISBT's court costs. The Society spent a further € 11k on legal advice in the 2012-2013 financial year primarily related to the revision of the Statutes and By-laws.

As a result of the Society reaching an agreement with the Dutch tax authorities to claim VAT, it has significantly lower its cost structure. This will provide the Society with even more opportunity to sponsor events, workshops, hand out prize money etc.

Finally the change to Dutch corporate income tax legislation has had an impact on ISBT. With effect from 1st April 2012, in order to avoid the payment of corporation tax the Society must transfer any surpluses on its annual Income and Expenditure Account to the ISBT Foundation. Negotiations with the tax authorities have resulted in the Foundation being able to use its donation income for the purposes of supporting ISBT's educational activities. In addition, there will be no requirement for there to be a majority of non-ISBT Board Members to serve on the Foundation Board. It is likely therefore that the Foundation will be able to support some of ISBT's key educational initiatives, for example content capture from ISBT Congress presentations (and distribution of that content to developing countries unable to afford the costs of Congress attendance), and ISBT Academy events.

Copies of the 2012-2013 full financial summary are available from the ISBT Central Office.

# Reports from ISBT Working Parties

- 
- Working Party on Apheresis
  - Working Party on Blood Supply Management
  - Working Party on Cellular Therapy
  - Working Party on Clinical Transfusion
  - Working Party on Donors and Donation
  - Working Party on Global Blood Safety
  - Working Party on Granulocyte Immunobiology
  - Working Party on Haemovigilance
  - Working Party on Information Technology
  - Working Party on Platelet Immunobiology
  - Working Part on Quality Management
  - Working Party on Rare Donors
  - Working Party on Red Cell Immunogenetics and Terminology
  - Working Party on Transfusion Transmitted Diseases

# Working Party on Apheresis



Hans Vrielink, Chairperson

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson Hans Vrielink

Secretary Paul Höcker, assisted by Margarete Grimus

- Specifications for blood components are discussed. What volume with how many specific cells need to be transfused, and therefore need to be taken from a donor. For RBC components there are no evidence based specifications available. A study to achieve figures is suggested.

## 2. Membership information

In total, the Working party on Apheresis is having registered 28 members working in the field of apheresis from 14 countries all over the world. Besides the professionals working in the field, the Working Party has also members representing 7 companies working in the field of apheresis.

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Working Party on Apheresis had one meeting on July 8, 2012 at the international ISBT Congress in Cancun, Mexico.

## 4. Activities during the period

- Suggestions for the scientific programme for the regional meetings in Amsterdam and in Kuala Lumpur (2013) were internally discussed suggested to the regional committees.

- In co-operation between European and USA professionals (physicians and nurses, from ESFH, WAA) an international course for apheresis nurses was developed. The Working Party on Apheresis supports this development. Based on this, a suggestion was made to the regional scientific committee of the meeting in Kuala Lumpur and a seminar for apheresis nurses will be organised December 1, 2013.

# Working Party on Blood Supply Management



**Dr Loyiso Mpuntsha (left), Chairperson**

**Dr Gilles Folléa (right), Co-chairperson**

## 1. Chairpersons

Chairperson Loyiso Mpuntsha  
Co-chairperson Gilles Folléa

## 2. Membership information:

The complete membership list is available on the ISBT website.

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

a. Business meeting held at the ISBT Congress on **8<sup>th</sup> July 2012** discussed:

The WP had organised a business meeting which was held on the **8 July 2012** in Cancun, Mexico. The discussions were focused for the 2013 congress' academic session to make presentations on Blood Supply Management: Definitions and methods, Experiences from the Asia-Pacific; Europe; Africa and South America. A template has been agreed to help speakers prepare their presentations to present important recommendations from their experience.

b. A parallel session was held at the ISBT Congress on 10th July 2012 and discussed:

- a) Red Blood Cell Management: tools for assessment and improvement;
- b) Implementing a hospital-based programme to help monitoring and improving prescriber practices;
- c) Patient Blood Management.

c. On the **11<sup>th</sup> September 2012** the WP held a teleconference and discussed:

## I. Planning of the ISBT WP survey on BSM

After the background was given and update was done by Gilles, with regards to the process at the Council of Europe (CoE), it followed that:

- A meeting of the CoE on 1st and 2nd of October 2012 in Strasbourg, France, considered making available to the ISBT WP the Survey Questionnaire
- The WP members who attended were Gilles and Jacqui
- A follow up process to analyse, revise and improve the Questionnaire would ensue to finalise it.
- The CoE had indicated willingness to agree to have the Questionnaire posted onto the ISBT website by a signed agreement.
- The WP Chair subsequently wrote a letter to the CoE to formalize the working relations on the development of the method of using the BSM Questionnaire (SWOT), to further investigate the BSM process and experiences through the ISBT BSM WP survey.

II. The Academic session on BSM planned for the Amsterdam ISBT meeting was discussed to be finalized in a follow up meeting

III. A Parallel session on BSM for the Amsterdam 2013 ISBT meeting was discussed to be finalized in a follow up meeting. As the ISBT survey was a bit postponed, the parallel session could not be proposed for the ISBT 2013 meeting.

**IV. Other matters:**

- a) The meeting agreed that the BSM Working Party will submit article for the December 2013 Transfusion Today publication, as requested by the ISBT Secretariat.
- b) ISBT- Membership: This was clarified and accepted that membership requirements have to be respected and the Chair contacted the members of the WP who are not individual members of the ISBT.
- d. The follow up ISBT WP on BSM teleconference was held on the 11 March 2013 and discussed:
  - 3.4.1 The EDQM questionnaire on blood supply management.
  - 3.4.2 Plan for the ISBT BSM WP Complementary survey on blood supply management:
    - a) Objectives clarified
    - b) Organisation: a team representing the 5 continents
    - c) Time scheduling to be done by the team
  - 3.4.3 2013 ISBT Academic session on BSM
    - a) Abstracts and articles for ISBT June 2nd Academic session sent out by the 4 presenters
    - b) 2013 Annual report of ISBT WP on BSM – LM to draft it.
    - c) Agenda of the June 1st business meeting was agreed to.

# Working Party on Cellular Therapy



Mickey Koh (UK/Singapore), Chairperson

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson Mickey Koh (UK/Singapore)  
Vice Chairperson Peter Horn (Germany)  
Secretary Christian Gabriel (Austria)  
Treasurer Reinhardt Henschler (Germany)

## 2. Membership information

The mailing list consists of 30 persons including the committee. There has been a significant growth in members. When I took over this role, there were only 3 other members on the list! Representation from Europe, Asia, Africa, North America and South America are all represented.

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

A working party meeting was held during the ISBT congress in Cancun, July 2012. The feedback was that Cancun was difficult to get to and hence the attendance consisted of less than 10 persons. The meeting concentrated on the future goals and purpose of the working party. Discussion was made on how to complement other cellular therapy groups.

A tele-conference was held amongst the office bearers in March 2013, to plan the upcoming meeting in Amsterdam.

## 4. Activities during the period

1. Election of **office/committee bearers**
2. Proposal to draft formal bylaws for the working party
3. Joint session held between ISBT and ISCT at the recent ISCT symposium in Auckland April 2013 entitled "Biobanking and Biomarkers"

4. I have represented ISBT at the AABB cellular therapy tele-conferences with the aim of working closely with AABB
5. ISBT will host a webinar in November 19th which is hosted by AABB. The speaker is Dr Thomas Leemhuis who is the Deputy Director at Hoxworth Blood Centre, Cincinnati, USA and the title: Minimal requirements for setting up a Cell therapy Lab.
6. Discussion on a project/position paper: Platelet Lysates and its use in Regenerative Medicine

# Working Party on Donors and Donation



Diane de Coning, Chairperson

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson	Diane de Coning
Secretary	Cecilia Tan
Treasurer	Sylvia Daigneault

1. Donor reception – welcome and engage the donor
2. Donor Interview – respect the donor
3. Donation – care about the donor
4. Refreshments – thank and motivate the donor

## 2. Membership information

The working Party has 45 active members from Asia, Africa, Europe, North and South America and Australasia representing 25 countries.

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The working party last met physically at the ISBT Conference in Cancun. Only 12 members of the working party attended the meeting.

## 4. Activities during the period

### Training:

At the Cancun meeting various topics were discussed including the important topic of Donor Management Training. Wim de Korte described the 2 day Donor Management Training (including analysis of donor base; donor types; donor selection; donation procedure and donor retention) that has been developed to complement the Domaine Manual. He shared the logistics with all present and the details of the training will be posted on the WP website for any ISBT members to utilize.

The attendees went on to share success stories from Australia, who shared their newly introduced Service Excellence Programme. This 1 day training programme will be posted as a 1 page article on the website and includes the following approach:

### Voluntary non-remunerated blood donors (VNRBD):

Discussion arose re VNRBD versus Family Replacement Donors (FRD) in conjunction with the WHO Aide Memoire on Blood Safety, the EBA recommendations and the concept paper on Altruism and Volunteerism developed by the WP. Additional requirements from the WP were to adopt and to publish definitions on VNRBD on the website, including definitions on remunerations issues after discussions and comments received by members on "hot topics" on the website.

### Donor vigilance

Karin Magnussen to continue to report back to the WP on donor vigilance issues, as the WP representative on the Haemovigilance WP.

### Partnership with ADRP

The WP successfully hosted an Academy event with the Association of Donor Recruitment Professionals, which was extremely well attended and brought, both developed and developing countries together to discuss their challenges and success stories from both environments.

### Cultural Diversity

Strategies on how to address Cultural Diversity has been identified as a hot topic in the area of “Donors and Donation” and an article was written by Sylvie Daigneault and Johanne Charbonneau entitled: *From research to donor recruitment: an initiative to engage ethnic minorities at Héma-Québec in Transfusion Today.*

### Youth and school recruitment programmes:

Ideas were shared and success stories from Greece and Singapore have been requested to publish on website. Progress reports from the working party task teams:

1. Low haemoglobins in regular voluntary blood donors, particularly in the youth, in collaboration with the ISBT WP on Haemovigilance, is being addressed
2. Recognition versus incentives” is being address in the context of VNRBD.

### Way forward:

The following issues were given priority:

1. Information on the Donor Management Training in relation to the Domaine Manual will be made available to all ISBT membership on the website
2. A draft of “guidelines for donor acceptance” has been circulated to the working party members for perusal and comment. This will be resend to all members for a wider range of comments.
3. An academic programme focusing on the recruitment of voluntary non-remunerated blood donors, in partnership with the Association of Donor Recruitment Professional, is planned for the ISBT Regional conference in Kuala Lumpur.

In conclusion, the last 12 months have been a very productive time for the Working Party on Donors and Donation, with very positive outcomes.

# Working Party on Global Blood Safety



Jean-Pierre Allain, UK, Chairperson

## 1. Chairperson and Committee

Chairperson	Jean-Pierre Allain Cambridge, UK
Vice chairperson	Jay Epstein, Bethesda, USA
Treasurer	Roger Dodd, Rockville, USA
Secretary	Marion Vermeulen, Johannesburg, South Africa

The Working Party on Global blood safety was officially constituted at the international ISBT congress in Cancun, Mexico. Results of the elections for the Organising Committee were:

Members:	Paul Ashford Peter Ganz, Canada Martin Smid, The Netherlands Ravi Reddy, South Africa Jean-Claude Faber, Luxemburg
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## 2. Membership information

There are 49 members from 21 countries including 7 from developing countries.

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

In addition to the formative meeting held in Cancun (July 2012), the organising committee has communicated by bimonthly conference calls (total of 6) attended by 5-7 members.

Topics covered were drafting of WP TOR, information to membership and industry, agenda for WP meetings in Cancun and Amsterdam, identification of specific projects. Since the ISBT meeting in Cancun, one of the main activities was the genesis of a WP GBS network primarily focused on developing countries and intended to be representative of each member blood centre. Member blood centres (at least 2 per country) are intended to be

representative (large and small) and expected to actively participate in the activities of the WP. At present, a preliminary list of 99 blood centres in 51 countries has been drawn up and 66 have been contacted. At present, all responding centres (38) have agreed to participate. Further recruitment is currently ongoing.

## 4. Activities during the period

Activities are planned to initially take the form of questionnaires focusing on specific issues of global interest. These topics are planned to include blood donors, blood testing, quality assurance, blood products, clinical use of products, research in resource poor areas etc. The final product could be, according to importance of the data and after agreement of members, disseminated as reports, recommendations or formally published in peer reviewed journals.

A second activity is connecting of WP with other organisations interested in regulatory convergence. Connection was established with the International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF).

Plans are being drawn to attract membership from resource poor areas and membership in the network might be one way of doing so, particularly if some external funding can be obtained.

# Working Party on Clinical Blood transfusion



Jonathan Wallis, UK, Chairperson

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson	Jonathan Wallis, UK
Co-chairperson	Ai Leen Ang, Singapore
Secretary	Cynthia So-Osman, Netherlands
Committee	All members attending

## 2. Membership information

27 active members representing 19 countries from 6 continents

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

- Business meeting in Cancun June 2012
- All day meeting on 18th January in Amsterdam, Netherlands.  
Main topics:
  - Indication codes for transfusion
  - ‘Apps’ for clinical transfusion

## 4. Activities during the period

- We are continuing to work on coding for blood transfusion to allow comparative epidemiological studies
- Development of smart phone apps for clinical transfusion advice is being led by dr Daffyd Thomas
- Planning for International study on storage age of platelets and time to next transfusion
- Educational subgroup (Peter van den Burg)

# Working Party on Granulocyte Immunobiology



**Lin Fung, Chairperson**

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson      Lin Fung, Australia

## 2. Membership information

ISBT members	19
Other interested individuals	32
Countries represented	10

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

### 11th International Granulocyte Immunobiology Workshop (IGIW) 2012

Organised by: L. Fung and R. Schuller (University of Queensland & The Prince Charles Hospital, Australia; and Neutrophil & Platelet Immunology Laboratory, American Red Cross Mid-America Blood Services Division, St Paul, MN, USA) with 13 labs participating. Summary: The standard of antibody detection and identification seen in previous workshops has generally been sustained in this exercise with a mean score of 88.5% from the 13 participating laboratories. HNA genotyping was generally performed to a very high standard with 12/13 laboratories scoring 100% for all alleles.

**XII European Symposium on Platelet & Granulocyte Immunobiology, Warsaw, Poland (May 10-13th 2012)**  
 Contained 3 granulocyte sessions (i.e. total of 3 sessions) allocated (i) Neutrophil Immunobiology; (ii) Neutrophil Form and Function and (iii) Granulocyte Workshop – where results of 2011 and 2012 workshops were discussed.  
 The presence of between 50-100 people at each session confirms interest in granulocyte immunobiology.

### 32nd International Congress of the ISBT, Cancun, Mexico (July 7 - 12, 2012)

The 2nd ISBT Working Party on Granulocyte

Immunobiology took place and for the first time, results of an International Granulocyte Immunobiology Workshop (IGIW – 11th 2012) will be presented at an ISBT meeting. Thanks to ISBT support we were able to invite Dr Brian Yip who gave a very cutting edge lecture on “Neutrophil Behaviour in tissues during inflammation”.

Application was made to ISBT to conduct a Granulocyte Serology Training & Education Seminar in Asia, and we are awaiting a response.

Details of GIWP members and participants of Granulocyte Immunobiology Workshop was updated on the ISBT website.

## 4. Activities during the period

G. Lucas lead the preparation of a manuscript entitled: External quality assessment of HNA specific antibody detection and HNA genotyping from 2000 to 2012, which has been accepted by Vox Sanguinis.

A Granulocyte nomenclature subcommittee was proposed and Dr Brigitte Flesch, German Red Cross Blood Service West has agreed to chair this subcommittee. Dr Bridgette will share her thoughts on the subcommittee at the GIWP meeting in Amsterdam.

A GIWP meeting has been scheduled for 4th June 2013 at the ISBT Amsterdam.

It will also discuss a draft “GIWP Operating Principles”.

The 12th International Granulocyte Immunobiology Workshop (IGIW) 2013 is currently in progress, and has been organised by Prof. J Bux and Dr A Reil.

# Working Party on Haemovigilance



**Jo Wiersum, Chairperson**

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson	Jo Wiersum
Secretary	Maria Antonia Escoval
Donor Vigilance Lead	Peter Tomasulo
Treasurer	Mickey Koh

Jean-Claude Faber ex officio as president of the International Haemovigilance Network

## 2. Membership information

The mailing list consists of 98 persons including the committee. Thirty-nine countries are represented. Most but not all of these people are members (formal membership is only open to paid-up ISBT members); other participants are welcome to attend meetings but are not eligible to vote or sit on the committee.

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

An all-day working party meeting was held during the ISBT congress in Cancun, July 2012. At this meeting, as introduced in 2011, half of the day was arranged with two parallel meetings during which specific themes on donor haemovigilance and on recipient haemovigilance could be discussed between experts. A total of 27 persons attended for part or all of the day.

Besides updates on ongoing affairs, the agenda included

### Recipient haemovigilance:

pilot indicators for quality of blood transfusion practice definitions of errors and incidents presentation on “managed convergence”, communication and actions following fatality due to mixup of intravenous solutions during plasmapheresis.

### Donor haemovigilance

Iron status  
Donor complications reported to the ISTARE database  
Needle injury.

## 4. Activities during the period

The working party was represented in a progress meeting (November 2013) of the IHN-ISBT haemovigilance database “ISTARE”. Jo Wiersum attended on behalf of ISBT; she as well as other members in the ISTARE steering group are both members of the working party and participants in IHN.

The ISBT shared with the IHN and Sharja Blood Center, U.A.E., in co-sponsoring a WHO-initiated global consultation on haemovigilance which was held in Dubai from 20-22 November 2012. This meeting aimed to invite as many as possible participants from the developing world and provide support to countries where haemovigilance has not yet been implemented or is in need of strengthening. Salwa Hindawi and Jo Wiersum represented the ISBT on this occasion, at which some 160 participants from over 40 countries were present. A significant outcome of this meeting was the acceptance by those present of the role of the ISBT haemovigilance working party in developing and maintaining definitions and tools for haemovigilance – the working party for its part committed to ensuring wide consultation of relevant organisations.

The working party committee held a number of organisational meetings by teleconference during 2012-2013.

# Working Party on Information Technology



Ralf Knels, Chairperson

## 1. Chairperson and committee

(TF = Task Force)

Chairperson      Ralf Knels (Chairperson RFID TF)

### Executive Committee:

Treasurer	Paul Ashford
Chairperson Traceability TF	Michael Breard
Secretary and Vice chairperson RFID TF	Lynne Briggs
Past Chairperson	Pia Bruce
Representative ISBT-Board	Judith Chapman
Vice Chairperson Standard Interface TF	Shankar Goudar
Vice Chairperson Standard Interface TF	Teresa Knutsen
Chairperson Standard Interface TF	Linda Lodge
	Mario Muon

## 2. Membership information

92 members from 18 countries

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

Assembly meeting at ISBT Cancun 08.07.2012: 14 attendees; report from EC and TF's, discussion about future strategy

RFID TF meeting at ISBT Cancun 08.07.2012: 15 attendee; updating RFID guideline and new tags  
RFID TF meeting at AABB Boston 08.10.2012: 9 attendees; updating RFID guideline

Standard Interface TF meeting at ISBT Cancun 08.07.2012: 13 attendees; progress in guideline  
Standard Interface TF meeting in Oslo 05. - 06.11.2012: 8 attendees; progress in guideline, new working structure

Traceability TF meeting at ISBT Cancun 09.07.2012: 13 attendees; future activities and cooperation with Haemovigilance TF, glossary Traceability

EC meeting at ISBT Cancun 09.07.2012: 6 attendees; future actions, working list with activities  
EC meeting at AABB Boston 08.10.2012: 4 attendees; next actions  
2 telephone conferences of EC

## 4. Activities during the period

Pia Bruce had to step down as Chairperson due to conflict of interest as a result of moving from Finnish Red Cross to Roche. Ralf Knels is the new Chairperson and Janet Sampson was the new Secretary.

WPIT members introduced 4 lectures and some poster presentations at ISBT Cancun and posters at AABB Boston.

New aim is to creating guidance documents with links to appropriate sites instead of extensive guidelines. Further an e-book should be published with Validation guideline as pilot project for ISBT (money will be requested for 2013).

### Validation TF

- Guideline still a valid document, creating an e-book has to be planned
- some topics (e.g. cloud computing, integrated networks) need updating and/or expansion. A general specification for selection of a computer system with a list of websites of vendors that can be contacted - this could be expanded to other software related systems such as general lab systems

**RFID TF**

- Guideline - update those parts that need updating/expanding - this will be done at the RFID Task Force Meeting in Milwaukee after the AABB Annual Meeting in Boston RFID

**Interface TF**

- was reactivated in 2012 (active since 2006) A lot of background material was already done, but Task Force inactive for a period. Could be quickly revived.
- ABC HL7 Project - 18 HL7 messages have been developed and approved two tasks moving forward:
  - System-Instrument Interfaces
  - System-System Interfaces
- Options - run a pilot or just move ahead with tables
- Linda Lodge is back as Chairperson and Teresa Knutson and Shankar Goudar support her work as Vice Chairpersons
- Traceability TF
- Current flow/plan was reviewed via MindGenius
- Glossary was prepared for guidance document
- Lecture was prepared for ISBT 2013

# Working Party on Platelet Immunobiology



**Sentot Santoso, Chairperson**

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson      Sentot Santoso  
Co-chairperson    Nelson H. Tsuno (elected in July 2012  
                       Cancun, Mexico)

## 2. Membership information

The membership of the PIWP is exclusively for the ISBT member, and should be attributed to reference laboratory in the country, which received good scores in the biannual international platelet workshops and/or contributed scientifically on the field of platelet immunobiology. Insufficient output by reference laboratory may lead to cancelation of membership.

Total number of members is 33 from 21 countries

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

None

## 4. Activities during the period

In an attempt to improve platelet immunological methods for the reliable laboratory diagnostic of immune mediated thrombocytopenia, as well as to develop research network between Asian and other interested countries, the Platelet Immunology Working Party, Asia Regional (PIWP-AR) was established by the ISBT in 2010.

Since July 2012, we have been working on the organization of a training course of platelet immunology methodologies for the Asian and other interested labs, which want to start or improve their laboratory skills in the platelet immunology field. The laboratory from Guangzhou together with the laboratory from Nanning (both from China) kindly offered

to provide the course. This training course will be held in Guangzhou blood center from May 7-9, 2013, and 17 participants from 8 countries in Asia (China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, and Thailand) will participate. The preparation of this course is ongoing.

After the first workshop organized by the PIWP-AR, which was successfully held in Taipei during the 22nd Regional Congress of the ISBT, we are now working on the organization of the second workshop. Presently, 17 labs from 10 countries are willing to participate on this workshop. The result of this workshop will be presented in Kuala Lumpur during the 23rd Regional congress of the ISBT.

Furthermore, we have been working on the organization of a meeting with the members of our PIWP during the ISBT Regional Congress in Amsterdam in June 2013. In this meeting we want to discuss about our activities in the forthcoming years including 1) Nomenclature of HPAs, 2) Topics for the International Workshop 2013, 3) Topics for Scientific Collaborations within the Working Party Members, 4) Topics for Standardization (Antigens and Antibodies), and 5) Others.

# Working Party on Quality Management



**Paul Strengers, Chairperson**

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson	Paul Strengers (Netherlands)
Board members	Paul Strengers (Netherlands)
	Christian Seidl (Germany)
	Tomislav Vuk (Croatia)

## 2. Membership information

29 members from 19 countries: Netherlands (2), Germany (3), Kuwait (1), Yemen (1), Libya (1), Saudi Arabia (1), USA (5), Nigeria (1), Romania (2), Greece (2), UK (1), Egypt (1), Pakistan (1), WHO (1), China (1), UAE (1), Croatia (2), Gibraltar (1), France (1)

## 3. Meetings and telephone conferences

- May 21, 2012: telephone conference (board members: Paul Strengers, Christian Seidl and Tomislav Vuk) Topics: preparations for the ISBT congress in Cancun, agreement on the further development of the two projects (Quality Indicators and Quality Management Survey)
- July 9, 2012: WP-QM meeting at ISBT congress in Cancun, Mexico (10 members and 5 guests from the Mexican Association of Transfusion Medicine) Topics: report of the second meeting of the WP in Lisbon 2011, history and the development of the quality indicator project, status of the quality management survey and the evaluation of the responses from collaborating ISBT colleagues, draft proposal for new classification of errors in transfusion medicine, collaboration with other ISBT WPs

## 4. Activities during the period

In April 2012 we have started with the preparations for the Congress in Cancun, including the Academy Day presentations, parallel session of the WP and the

annual meeting of the WP. The decision was made that Paul Strengers, Christian Seidl and Tomislav Vuk (board members) prepare lectures for the Academy Day and full length papers to be published in ISBT Science Series (Quality management of blood collection, Quality of blood component processing and storage and Quality indicators: a tool for quality monitoring and improvement). Five abstracts receiving the highest scores were selected for oral presentations during Symposium on quality management.

On May 21 board members had teleconference and made decisions on future activities. It was decided to continue with quality indicators project and with the survey questionnaire aimed to collect data related to the quality management systems of blood establishments covering states represented by the ISBT members participating in the WP-QM. Based on the proposals and suggestions from WP members during the meeting in Lisbon 2011, revised questionnaire was sent to new members and candidates from regions not covered with the first round.

On June 19, draft proposal for new classification of errors in transfusion medicine was sent to WP-QM members and on July 4 to the members of WP-HV. Regarding quality indicators project, shortly before the ISBT Congress in Cancun, members of the WP-QM and WP-HV were asked to select about 10 quality indicators (from the list of 32) that are considered to be of particular interest to an international survey aimed at comparing indicators in different blood establishments.

The congress in Cancun was a great success for our WP. The “Quality management” section on Academy day was very well attended as well as the Symposium

on quality management. During the 3rd meeting of the WP-QM all current activities were reviewed and future plans discussed. Ten colleagues from nine countries have participated in the meeting. Also present were guests from the Mexican Association of Transfusion Medicine (five colleagues). The minutes of the WP-QM meeting in Lisbon (2011) were reviewed by Paul Strengers and approved. Tomislav Vuk reported about the history and the development of the Quality Indicators project. Christian Seidl presented the status of the Quality Management Survey and the evaluation of the responses from collaborating ISBT colleagues. Tomislav Vuk presented the draft proposal for new classification of errors in transfusion medicine that was sent to the WP-QM and WP-HV before the meeting for review and comment. Collaboration with other ISBT WPs was also discussed. Emphasized as very successful was the collaboration with Working Party on Hemovigilance.

On August 23, the letter was sent to Wim de Kort asking him to review quality indicators for processes of promotion, donor selection and blood collection. Suggestions and comments from Wim de Kort and WP members were incorporated in the new version and on October 19 new list of the QI was distributed to the members of WP-QM and WP-HV, asking to make comments and selection of indicators to be included in the international survey. In about 2 months 18 responses were received and the final list of indicators was created and it will be discussed at ISBT congress in Amsterdam.

# Working Party on Rare Donors



Sandra J. Nance, Chairperson

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Sandra J. Nance, USA.

## 2. Membership information

The Working Party on Rare Donors has 22 members from 19 countries.

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

**Number of meetings** – Meets at every ISBT Congress and holds informal meetings at the ISBT Regional Congresses.

**Number of people attending the business meeting** – At the Working Party meeting in Cancun, 20 members attended along with seven invited guests (from Australia, Brazil, France, Japan, Singapore, and USA).

**Topics covered** – Appreciation to retiring members with certificates, welcome to new members, review of the minutes from the last formal meeting at the ISBT Congress in Berlin, master list of blood services globally, shipping outcome form project review, rare blood leaflet, webpage data review for new inclusions, request for presentation and publication references on rare blood topics, review of countries not represented on the working party and who are involved in rare blood activities (requests, screening, shipping) and geography covered by the members of the working party, discussion on links between the working party webpage and those related to rare donor activities in several other countries (e.g., France, Germany, Spain, and IBGRL/WHO), review of Chair's report. All countries represented at the meeting gave presentations on their country's activities including the most difficult types of rare blood to find.



## 4. Activities during the period

The Executive Committee of the Working Party reviewed countries and their rare donor activities for possible addition to the Working Party. Once a country was identified, the Executive Committee worked with contacts in that country to determine a representative for the entire country. The potential members are vetted by the Executive Committee for active work in Rare Donor activities and ability to represent the country. This is easier in countries with a national rare donor program but dramatically more challenging in countries with regional or no organized programs. The potential new members are voted on by the current members.

of the Working Party. During the period 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 representatives from the following new countries joined the working party: Canada, Italy and Singapore. The new Working Party members added their country's rare donors to the WHO International Rare Donor Panel (IRDP), fulfilling one of the Terms of Reference of the Working Party. The Executive Committee worked on making the ISBT Webpage more useful to members. A Rare Donor Leaflet was made available for use and translation into every country's language and is posted on the ISBT Webpage. The Executive Committee worked together on topics and speakers for the ISBT Congress in Cancun. Also the we prepared the Working Party article for Transfusion Today.

The activities of the Working Party members each year are to focus on adding rare donors to the IRDP, and ensure that they facilitate meeting the domestic and international needs of patients for rare blood. In addition, this year, the members gathered specific data for presentations at the Working Party meeting; these are posted on the Working Party webpage. The four Program participants for the ISBT Scientific Program were selected specifically to demonstrate the rare donor activities in a country with a national program, in a country with regional programs working together and a country with a developing program, concluding with a report on the IRDP managed by IBGRL in Bristol. These presentations are posted on the webpage.

# Working Party on Red Cell Immunogenetics and Blood Group Terminology



Jill R. Storry, Chairperson

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson      Jill R. Storry

L Castilho, GL Daniels,  
G Denomme, WA Flegel, G Garratty,  
C Gassner, M de Haas, C Hyland,  
C Lomas-Francis, JM Moulds, N Nogues,  
ML Olsson, T Peyrard, Ph Rouger,  
CE van der Schoot, Y Tani, LC Yu,  
F Wagner, S Wendel, CM Westhoff,  
V Yahalom.

## 2. Membership information

Twenty-two members, twelve countries represented

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Working party met in conjunction with the 32nd International Meeting of the ISBT in Cancun, on Saturday, July 7th, 2012. Present at the meeting were Lilian Castilho, Masja de Haas, Willy Flegel, Cathy Hyland, George Garratty, Christine Lomas Francis, Joann Moulds, Martin Olsson, Marion Reid, Jill Storry, Yoshihiko Tani, Connie Westhoff, Vered Yahalom. Thierry Peyrard represented Phillippe Rouger. Following the retirement of Marion Reid, Teresa Zelinski and Elisabeth Smart, four new members were elected to the group: Greg Denomme, Christoph Gassner, Thierry Peyrard and Franz Wagner. Other business has largely been conducted by e-mail.

## 4. Activities during the period

As in previous years to coincide with the International meeting, a workshop for Molecular Genotyping was organised and executed by Jill Storry and Ellen van

der Schoot, together with Aicha ait Soussan (Sanquin, Netherlands), Claire Lockie, Jennifer Boyle (NIBSC, UK) and Kate Hsu

(Taiwan). Samples from routine blood donors as well as plasma samples for free fetal DNA were distributed for analysis. Forty-five laboratories world-wide participated and the results were presented at the ISBT meeting. Those results will be summarised and published in the coming months. We have continued to work with blood group terminology and with allele nomenclature and a report of the Cancun meeting has been submitted to Vox Sanguinis. Briefly, I can report that three new blood group systems were approved following exciting research papers describing their discovery. These are FORS (031), JR (032) and Lan (033). New blood group antigens in the other blood group systems were also evaluated and a total of 14 new antigens were assigned numbers.

Promising preliminary discussions have begun between the Working Party (as represented by Marion Reid, Geoff Daniels and Jill Storry) and Dr John Ord at the LRG (Locus Reference Genomic) Project based in Cambridge, to determine if we can work together to provide an accurate database for blood group genes under the auspices of the EMBL-EBI and NCBI. This is a project that will certainly capture the interest of the ISBT members and will help resolve some of the issues faced with allele nomenclature to date.

# Working Party on Transfusion Transmitted Infectious Diseases



**Michael P. Busch, Chairperson**

## 1. Chairperson and Executive Committee

Chairperson	Michael P. Busch, USA.
Secretary	Emma Castro, Spain.
Treasurer	Ravi Reddy, South Africa.
Corporate Member	Anthony Hardiman, USA
Individual Member	Richard J. Benjamin, USA.
Honorary Member	Silvano Wendel, Brazil.

- Chagas, Malaria in Mexico, by Roberto Vazquez (on behalf of Maria Del Carmen Guzman-Bracho)
- WP-TTID Questionnaire on NAT Testing in Latin America, by Silvano Wendel.

The meeting concluded with the Corporate Members Session. Anthony Hardiman summarized the corporate view on regulatory harmonization and reported on the problematic situation regarding regulatory requirements for licensure in different countries. The session ended with the following presentation:

- Experience with HEV to demonstrate the safety of plasma product, by Mikihiro Yunoki.

The Working Party also gathered for a Social Event Dinner in Cancún.

The new Organizing Committee held 5 teleconferences, 2 with the Subgroup Coordinators and 1 with the local committee in Kuala Lumpur. Main topics covered were:

- Project funding policy and priorities
- Subgroups consolidation
- Meetings at ISBT congresses Amsterdam and Kuala Lumpur
- Members recruitment
- Terms of reference, and budget issues

The Subgroup on Bacteria held 2 conference calls, and the Subgroup on Parasites 1 conference call (Points 4 A and B below).

The Corporate Members also organized a telephone conference to discuss the Observer Status for potential Corporate Members, Subgroups Restructuring, efficacy of the WP-TTID and its output in general.

## Membership information

Our membership brings together scientific experts, company representatives and members from leading institutions in the field of blood safety. The equal representation of all world regions is a priority. The WP-TTID has 83 members from 28 countries. The present aim is to recruit more transfusion experts from the Asia – South Pacific region.

## 3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Annual Meeting was held in Cancún in July 2012. It began with 5 individual meetings of the Subgroups on Bacteria, Cost Utility Analysis, Parasites, Epidemiology and Surveillance as well as a combined meeting of the HBV Safety and Virology Subgroups. A total of 54 participants attended the General Assembly the day after and elected the new Organizing Committee. The Organizing Committee presented reports on last year's activities. The Subgroups reported on recent activities and plans for future projects. The Scientific Session included the following presentations:

- Point of Care Testing for Bacterial Contamination of Platelets, by Andrew Heaton

#### 4. Activities during the period

The new Organizing Committee initiated the merge of several subgroups and changed the structure of the Annual Meeting by including the Subgroups Sessions in the General Assembly rather than having separate breakout sessions.

Subgroup Coordinators were involved into the assignment of funds to encourage pilot project development and fellowship research. The Organizing Committee is currently finalizing a proposal to fund several travel awards.

An article was published in the Transfusion Today feature “Hot topics in Transfusion Medicine in 2013”, focusing on Bacteria and Dengue.

Summaries of the Sub groups activities can be found on the ISBT website.

# Reports from ISBT Standing Committees

- 
- ISBT Standing Committee of the ISBT Academy
  - ISBT Standing Committee of Vox Sanguinis

# Standing Committee of the ISBT Academy



Roger Y. Dodd, Chairperson

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson	Roger Y. Dodd, USA
Members	Martin Olsson; Sweden Beryl Armstrong, South Africa Mindy Goldman, Canada Graciela Leon, Venezuela Neelam Marwaha, India Eugene Zhiburt, Russia Peter J.M. van den Burg, Netherlands Ahmed Gharehboghian, Iran Kenji Tadokoro, Japan Anne Husebekk, Norway Judith Chapman, ISBT CEO, ex officio

## 2. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Standing Committee held a meeting in Cancun on July 11, 2012.

Items discussed included organization and function; proposed appointment of an administrative staff member to support science and education; improvements in the application process for Academy support; web-site development and content; delegation of DT to plan for e-learning programs; possibility of providing continuing education credits; local language presentations; collaboration with national or regional associations.

## 3. Activities during the period

The Academy has supported a total of 12 educational events during the past year (see attachment). The Standing Committee has planned Academy day events for the upcoming Regional Congresses in Amsterdam and Kuala Lumpur.

The application and review processes for Academy support have been revised and are now in place. The rationale and requirements for use of the ISBT logo have been clarified.

The ISBT has initiated the process of selecting a provider for management of electronic presentation and distribution of educational and scientific sessions. The Standing Committee will advise on content and integration of the associated website, which will also represent the Academy.

The Standing Committee has been constituted as an advisory group to the Foundation of the ISBT, which will become the funding source for Academy programs and projects.

# ISBT Academy Events

April 2012 – March 2013

Date	Event	Location	Support
April 12 - 14	4th National Congress, Slovenian Society of Transfusion Medicine	Terme Olimia, Slovenia	Logo and financial
May 2 - 4	National Blood Bank Conference, Norway	Tromso, Norway	Logo
May 10 - 13	XII European Symposium on Platelet and Granulocyte Immunobiology	Warsaw, Poland	Logo and financial
May 23 - 26	Italian Congress of Transfusion Medicine,	Rimini, Italy	Logo
June 4- 8	6th Congress of the Africa Society for Blood Transfusion	Mauritius	Logo and financial
July 7 - 12	32nd International Congress of the ISBT	Cancun, Mexico	
October 3-4	VIIth Brazilian Congress of Stem Cells and Cell Therapy	Sao Paolo, Brazil	Logo and financial
November 23 - 25	Indian Society of Transfusion Medicine	Jaipur, India	Logo and financial
November 12 - 28	6th Education course for Leadership of Blood Services	Shanghai, China	Logo and financial
November 29 December 1	Arab Transfusion Medicine Courses 10	Kuwait	Logo and financial
December 12	Pakistan Society of Blood Transfusion in collaboration with the Safe Blood Transfusion Services Project conference on Dengue	Islamabad, Pakistan	Logo and financial
December 12 - 14	Russian Transfusionists Association Workshop	Moscow, Russia	Logo and financial

# Standing Committee of Vox Sanguinis



Geoff Daniels, Chairperson

Vox Sanguinis is the scientific journal of the ISBT. The Editorial Board of Vox Sanguinis is responsible for editorial policy, whereas the Standing Committee is responsible for governance of the journal and functions as an interface between the Editorial Board and the Society.

## 1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Geoff Daniels  
Committee: Steve Morgan, Roger Dodd, Diana Teo, Wolfgang Mayr and Dana Devine  
Allan Stevens and Sam Gough (Wiley Blackwell)

The number of articles published in Vox Sanguinis in 2012 was 109, roughly the same as that for each of the last six years. Approximately 30% of submitted articles are accepted for publication. The rejection rate of 70% was slightly higher than that for the previous year. Although the scientific standard of the journal has certainly not diminished, the impact factor on 2011, the most recent year to be published, took a small dip after reaching its highest level in 2010.

## 2. Meetings and telephone conferences

The committee meets at least once per year. In order to make financial savings, the 2013 meeting was a telephone conference.

An annual prize is awarded to the best paper published in Vox Sanguinis. Papers are nominated by the editors and the winner is selected by the Jean Julliard Committee. In 2012, the prize was awarded in Cancún for the following paper: Tung JP, Fung YL, Nataatmadja M, Colebourne KI, Esmaeel HM, Wilson K, Barnett AG, Wood P, Silliman CC, Fraser JF. A novel *in vivo* ovine model of transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI). *Vox Sang* 2011;100:219-230. Despite the financial climate and the trend away from printed copies of journals, Vox Sanguinis remains financially sound. The royalties coming to the ISBT from Vox Sanguinis in 2011 and 2012, and forecast for 2013, have remained stable.

In order to accommodate the demands of certain research funding bodies, Wiley-Blackwell are introducing new open access policies. They have also developed a new electronic author licensing service to improve licensing efficiency for all stakeholders.

Together with the Vox Sanguinis Editor-in-Chief, the Standing Committee is continuing to explore ways of improving the quality of the ISBT Science Series, in order to provide a better journal for ISBT members and to achieve acceptance by Medline and, consequently, listing on PubMed.

# ISBT Award, prizes and Honorary Membership

- 
- ISBT Presidential Award
  - Jean Julliard Award
  - ISBT Developing Country Award
  - ISBT Honorary Membership
  - The ISBT Award
  - Vox Sanguinis Best Paper Prize

# ISBT Award, prizes and Honorary Membership



## ISBT Presidential Award

The ISBT Presidential Award was instituted at the initiative of the Foundation Transfusion Medicine in Amsterdam. The Award is granted to a senior person who has made eminent contributions to transfusion medicine or a related field through basic or applied research, the practice of transfusion therapy or through significant educational and/or service contributions to the field.

**Robert H Purcell M.D.**, Chief, Hepatitis Viruses  
Section, Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, National  
Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National  
Institutes of Health, USA.

## Jean Julliard Award

The ISBT Presidential Award was instituted at the initiative of the Foundation Transfusion Medicine in Amsterdam. The Award is granted to a senior person who has made eminent contributions to transfusion medicine or a related field through basic or applied research, the practice of transfusion therapy or through significant educational and/or service contributions to the field.

The 2012 recipient is Peter Horn M.D., Professor, Institute of Transfusion Medicine, University Hospital, Essen, Germany.



# ISBT Award, prizes and Honorary Membership

## ISBT Developing Country Award

The Award was created out of the vision of Erhard Seifried during his presidency of ISBT. The award enables Blood Services and/or Centres and individuals from low or medium human development index countries to attend an International Congress of the ISBT, organise an education symposium and/or potential short scholarship to visit a centre of excellence. The first award is made to the Sri Lanka National Blood Transfusion Service.



Ananda Gunasekera former Director of the National Blood Transfusion Service accepted the award on behalf of the Sri Lanka National Blood Transfusion Service



## Honorary membership

Formerly Professor, Dept. of Transfusion Medicine, Cell Therapy Centre, and Vice President, Aichi Medical University Hospital, Aichi Medical University School of Medicine, Nagakute, Aichi, Japan. Professor Takamoto was President of ISBT 2008 – 2010.

Shigeru Takamoto

# ISBT Award



## Dr Hector Rodriguez Moyado

Certified Hematologist by Consejo Mexicano de Hematología. Formerly Blood Bank Director, Centro Médico Nacional Siglo XXI, del Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social (IMSS), Mexico. The award was made in recognition of his work in transfusion medicine education over many years in Mexico.

## Joyce Poole

Reference Manager, International Blood Group Reference Laboratory (IBGRL), NHSBT, England  
The award was made for her work in education in the field of red cell immunohaematology and her contribution to the rare donor working party



## Marion Reid

Head of Immunochemistry Laboratory,  
Lindsley F. Kimball Research Institute,  
New York Blood Center, New York, USA.  
The award was made for her work in education in the field of red cell immunohaematology.



# Vox Sanguinis Best Paper Prize



Vox Sanguinis has granted a scientific award, the Vox Sanguinis Best Paper Prize, for the best original article published per calendar year in Vox Sanguinis. The 2012 prize was awarded to John-Paul Tung, Brisbane Australia A novel *in vivo* ovine model of transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI).

Tung JP, Fung YL, Nataatmjadja M, Colebourne KI,  
Esmaeel HM, Wilson K, Barnett AG, Wood P, Silliman CC,  
Fraser JF. Vox Sang 2011; 100: 219 – 230

# In Memoriam

- 
- Susan Leong

# In Memoriam



## Susan Leong

JP, mbbs (rangoon), FRCPATH, FRCPA, FRCP (Edinburgh), FHKAM (pathology)

Susan passed away peacefully on 21 December 2012 after a period of illness in Vancouver, Canada.

Susan was born on 23, January 1930 in Rangoon, Burma and graduated from the University of Rangoon. She received training in United Kingdom at the Hammersmith Hospital before arriving Hong Kong to join the Government Health Service in the early 1960s. She joined the Government Pathology service and, with the opening of Queen Elizabeth Hospital, worked in the Department of Haematology. She was a dedicated clinician who was generous with her time and always ready to serve the medical community.

Susan was extremely hard working but it was her determined nature that led to her assignment to develop a territory-wide blood transfusion service for Hong Kong. From the early limited beginnings at the Red Cross in Hong Kong, she established the foundation for a quality service. As the first Director of the HK Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service, she established a program that provided safe blood for all patients in both the public and the private sector without prejudice. Under her leadership, the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service came to be recognized as one of the leading centers in Asia, if not the world.

She received world-wide recognition for her pioneering work, and as a WHO consultant, she was in demand throughout Asia to advise and consult on blood transfusion matters constantly. She was recognized by the International Society of Blood Transfusion for all her work and had been elected as its President from 1992 to 1994. She was also honoured for her inspiring service with numerous awards, including the Badge of Honour (Queen Elizabeth II), the British Red Cross Badge of Honour for Distinguished Service, and the Justice of Peace appointment in Hong Kong.

Susan mentored many generations of young professionals, from nursing staff to laboratory technicians, to doctors. A consummate professional whose varied interests in life (nature, cooking, eating, traveling, family and seeing people excel in their gifts), her network of friends both professional and personal is wide. A devoted Christian, she has served also with Christian Aid and numerous other non-governmental humanitarian organizations in various roles.

Her friends describe her as a gentle, sincere, kind and helpful person. When approached, whether personal or work related, she was always attentive and gave sound and practical advice. As a person, she was always optimistic and courageous; able to face and overcome difficult situations (personal and professional) with a steely will.

She was a devoted mother to her children, always a constant guiding light for them. She will be sadly missed by her family -- Chris, Tim, Kim and Matt, Jon and Kate, her grandchildren, Rebecca, Isaac, Natasha, and Harlan.

Written by: Che Kit Lin

