

LSBT
ANNUAL
REPORT
2015-2016

Table of Contents

- 4** Foreword from the President
- 5** Foreword from the Secretary General
- 6** Board of Directors
- 7** Membership 2015 -2016
- 8** Congresses
 - 25th Regional Congress of the ISBT, London, UK
 - 26th Regional Congress of the ISBT, Bali, Indonesia
- 13** Financial Summary
- 14** Reports from ISBT Working Parties
 - Working Party on Apheresis
 - Working Party on Blood Supply Management
 - Working Party on Cellular Therapies
 - 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 Immuno-haematology
 - Working Party on Information Technology
 - Working Party on Platelet Immunobiology
 - Working Party on Quality Management
 - Working Party on Rare Donors
 - Working Party on Red Cell Immunogenetics and Terminology
 - Working Party on Transfusion Transmitted Diseases

- 39 Reports from ISBT Standing Committees
 - ISBT Standing Committee of the ISBT Academy
 - ISBT Standing Committee on Ethics
 - ISBT Standing Committee on Jean Julliard Prize
 - ISBT Standing Committee of Vox Sanguinis

- 44 ISBT Foundation

- 45 ISBT Award and Prizes
 - The ISBT Award
 - The Vox Sanguinis Best Paper Prize

Corporate Partners

ISBT is pleased to acknowledge the following Corporate Partners

GOLD:



SILVER:



BRONZE:



Foreword from the President

I am proud to introduce the Annual Report for 2015-16. The Society continues to be productive. We had two outstanding congresses, one in London, U.K., the other in Bali, Indonesia that were very successful: they were well attended, excellent science, great exhibition and lots of enthusiasm.

The ePortal acquired new materials, the ISBT Academy supported a large number of events and, together with our publications Vox Sanguinis, the Science Series and Transfusion Today, filled the non-congress days with ISBT activities. Our 15 Working Parties continued to contribute to scientific research, health policies, standards of practice, standardization of definitions and nomenclature for many of the important areas in our field. Moreover, we have been able to maintain a stable financial position in face of the challenges that continue to affect the world economy.

Internally, we worked on the next phase of our Strategic Plan and prepared a set of goals that will guide us for our next several years.

These successes resulted from the dedication of many people including our office staff, our Executive Committee and Board of Directors, our Working Party leaders and our members and commercial sponsors.

I want to recognize our office staff for their tremendous effort and dedication. They are Judith Chapman, our Executive Director, Monique van Dorp, our Communications Co-ordinator, and Ralph Zepeda, our Finance Manager. Also two new staff members joined us recently, Victoria Lakenman-Popa, our Office/ISBT Membership Manager, and Eszter Herczenik our Scientific Officer. They replaced Anne Westerink and Dianne van der Wal who ventured into new paths in their careers. We wish them good luck!

ISBT continued to play its role as an organization in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) by participating in the launch of the World Blood Donor Day, by participating in their Expert Committee on Biological Standardization and contributing to their effort to address the Ebola epidemic in Africa.

I feel privileged, and I am grateful for the opportunity given to me to be part of the past, present and future of this wonderful organization.

Celso Bianco
President



Foreword from the Secretary General

This report covers the period April 1st, 2015 to March 31st, 2016. I am pleased to report that the ISBT had a very successful year, with many encouraging achievements. We had two highly successful Regional Congresses. The first was held in London and the second in Bali, Indonesia. The London meeting attracted a total of 3670 participants and there was an impressive number of 989 accepted abstracts. The Bali meeting was specifically designed to be a smaller-scale event, primarily focused on educational programs for the region. The meeting nevertheless attracted 1068 participants and there were 241 accepted abstracts. We thank the Local Organising and Scientific committees as well as MCI Amsterdam for their effort and energy which contributed much to the success of these Congresses.

Vox Sanguinis continues to be the flagship scientific journal for the Society and is competitively rated 30th out of 68 haematology journals, with a current impact factor of 2.79.. There has also been notable progress for the ISBT Scientific Series, which is now a fully peer-reviewed electronically published journal; in addition to Congress presentations, it is featuring additional issues containing submitted papers.

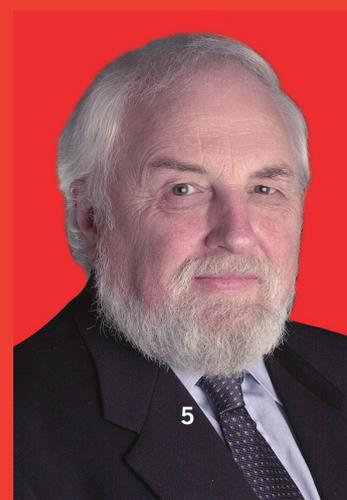
Membership of the ISBT has increased by 22% to a current total of 1689, representing 112 countries. Membership activities are a major strength of the organization, with continuing growth and energy in the Academy, which supported 18 activities in 13 countries and, of course generated a great deal of content and direction for the e-portal.

The 15 Working Parties continue to be a vital component of the Society and in addition to their core programs, they have been contributing extensively to content of Congresses and Academy session. The Linked-In group for younger ISBT investigator members has also been a success and reflects an overall new focus on younger members. We encourage all of you to participate actively in these activities as appropriate to your interests.

In 2014-2015, the following awards were presented in London: the ISBT Award to Imelda Bates and Martin Olsson, and the Vox Sanguinis Best Paper Prize to Y. Takahashi, K. Isa, R. Sano, T. Nakajima, R. Kubo, K. Takahashi, Y. Kominato, H. Tsuneyama, K. Ogasawara & M. Uchikawa for "Deletion of the RUNX1 binding site in the erythroid cell-specific regulatory element of the ABO gene in two individuals with the Am phenotype."

The Central Office has reported the resignation of Dianne van der Waal as Scientific Officer. Dianne will be going to Australia to follow her research interests. The posting has been filled by Eszter Herczenik. Please welcome her to her new role. Finally, there have been continuing improvements to the website and to the Academy Portal; a particular convenience is direct access to Vox from the Member section of the website.

Roger Dodd
Secretary General



Board of Directors

2015 - 2016

Executive Committee:

President	Celso Bianco, USA
President Elect	Vengetassen (Ravi) Reddy, South Africa
Senior Vice President	Diana Teo, Singapore
Junior Vice President	Erica Wood, Australia
Past President	Peter Flanagan, New Zealand
Secretary General	Roger Dodd, USA
Treasurer	Steve Morgan, UK

Members of the Board representing WHO Regions:

Africa	Bridon M'baya, Malawi
Northern Americas	Richard Benjamin, USA
Southern Americas	Ina-Noelia Pérez-Huaynalaya, Peru
Europe	Miguel Lozano, Spain
Europe	Claudio Velati, Italy
Eastern Mediterranean	Ahmad Gharehbaghian, Iran
South East Asia	Neelam Marwaha, India
Western Pacific	Masahiro Satake, Japan
Western Pacific	Che-Kit Lin, Hong Kong

Membership

Annual Report 2014-2015 - Membership

1. TOTAL MEMBERSHIP PER END OF MEMBERSHIP YEAR *

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
INDIVIDUAL	805	987	1205	1343	1422	2030	1680	1219	1354	1282	1617
AFFILIATED	27	23	23	18	22	17	16	14	17	14	13
EXEMPT	14	18	30	42	69	84	49	55	55	69	39
HONORARY	25	23	24	23	27	24	22	22	21	20	20
TOTAL:	871	1051	1282	1426	1540	2155	1767	1310	1447	1385	1689

* Until 2010 ISBT membership years ended on 31 December.

From 2011 on, the membership year was 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	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
AFRICA	25	38	41	33	59	51	50	43	49	43	78
AMERICAS	206	220	244	267	252	287	310	287	284	261	327
EASTERN	29	55	71	77	85	127	78	47	61	57	85
MEDITERRANEAN											
EUROPE	395	474	571	597	719	819	841	566	637	587	717
SOUTH EAST ASIA	43	56	88	117	86	81	76	58	65	78	148
WESTERN PACIFIC	107	144	190	252	221	665	325	218	258	256	334
TOTAL	805	987	1205	1343	1422	2030	1680	1219	1354	1282	1617

Congresses

- 25th Regional Congress of the ISBT, London, UK
- 26th Regional Congress of the ISBT, Bali, Indonesia

25th Regional Congress of the ISBT, London

Jonathan Wallis, Chairperson local scientific committee

The BBTS put in a bid for the 2015 European regional congress in 2012. Rather late in the day the then president of the BBTS Clare Milkins, and myself flew to Cancun to make a presentation to the ISBT Board. We had not allowed for the need to pass through US customs in Miami airport with the result that we missed our connection and had to stay overnight. On the plus side we were able to watch the final of that year's Wimbledon tennis tournament in the hotel bar with a British player on song but perhaps inevitably beaten by Roger Federer. Arriving just in time for our presentation the next day, maybe buoyed by this, we were delighted to be chosen for the 2015 congress.

Our local scientific committee, to whom my grateful thanks, produced a plethora of suggestions which had to be whittled down and then passed to the scientific secretary, Martin Olsson. After many re-iterations the programme was complete.

London is expensive as many pointed out. On the plus side it has a wonderful variety of attractions and history, and unusually for Britain the sun shone relentlessly throughout the conference. We hope that this, allied to the dockside venue, enhanced the experience of the congress for all our 70 invited speakers and 3760 delegates representing over 90 countries. It had a truly international flavour. For the weather I must thank the ISBT executive director, Judith Chapman, and her first class office staff who having organised everything else so well must surely have also been responsible for the sunshine.

I cannot mention all the speakers but there were some particular highlights. On Saturday we held our annual UK SHOT (Serious Hazards of Transfusion) meeting with a programme directed particularly at developing countries. We expected a couple of hundred attendees but were astonished to have over 600. I apologise again for running out of lunches but it provided a tremendous start to the meeting and was a testament to the importance of blood safety in the eyes of our delegates.

The academy day organised by Diana Teo, Chairperson of the ISBT Academy and was as successful and well attended as ever despite the brilliant sunshine outside.

Martin Olsson, and his successor as Scientific secretary, Ellen van der Schoot, helped produce a hugely varied programme of talks for the main programme. For me the first plenary included an eye opening view of donor motivation from psychologist Eammon Ferguson, On Tuesday we heard an astonishing talk from the discoverer of NETS, Arturo Zychlinsky, and on Wednesday we finished with a tour de force from Sunny Dzik and another new horizon in the role of ATP secretion by red cells from Randy Sprague. In between we had numerous exciting parallel sessions though I particularly remember the description of Sickle cell treatment in Cameroon by Dora Mbanaya.



We received 1143 abstracts from 81 countries of which 989 accepted. There were 70 invited speakers. The number of participants was the largest for a European Regional congress of the ISBT. There were 92 exhibitors making it the largest ever European Regional congress exhibition.

New at London was the Transfusion Practitioners breakfast networking session. 48 people attended, it was a great success and there will be TP sessions at the Dubai congress. Comments received included:

'Fantastic opportunity to network. Very interesting discussions' 'Excellent opportunity to network and learn about different approaches to achieving goals' 'Nice to meet people from other countries, you can compare standards' 'Interesting learning how other countries work'

This is what the ISBT is all about. International networking and science. I do hope if you attended that you enjoyed it as much as I did.



Congress party



Harold Gunson Fellowship winners with the President



Arriving at the congress in London

26th Regional Congress of the ISBT, Bali, Indonesia

Yuyun Soedermono, Congress President

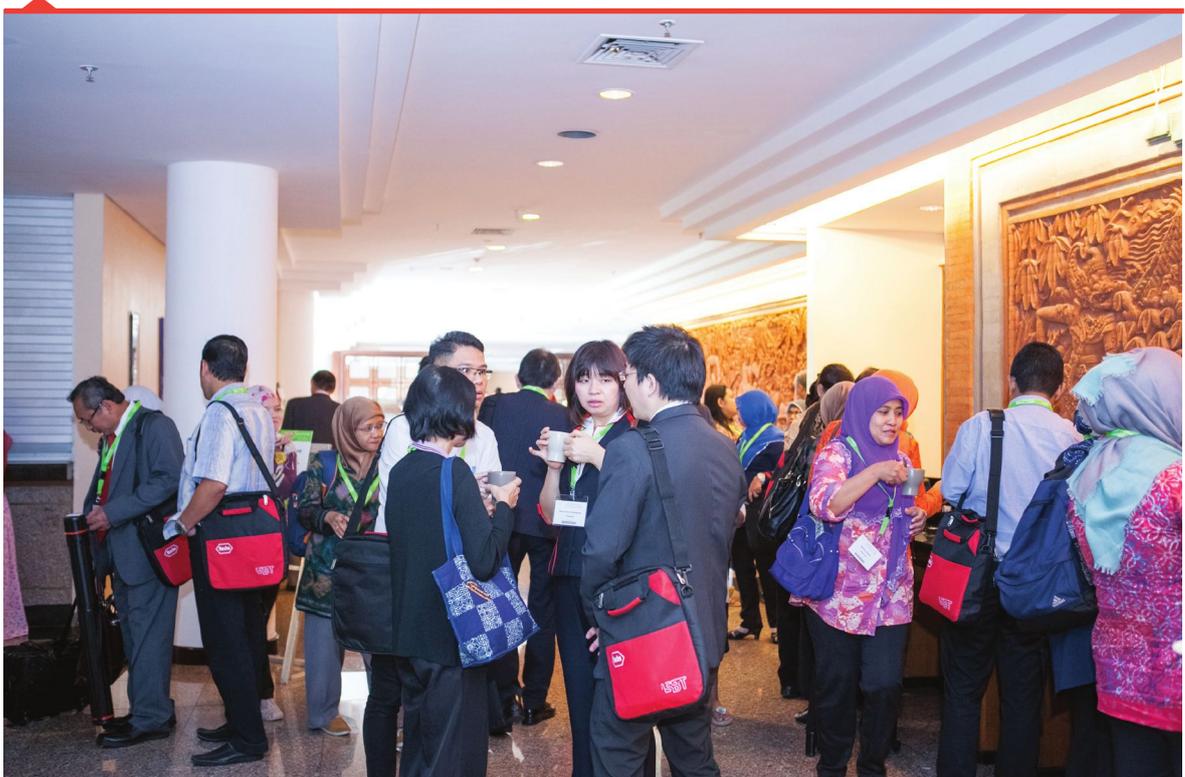
The desire to conduct an ISBT congress in Indonesia came when we attended the ISBT Congress in Malaysia, as the congress topics presented were very relevant for the situation of blood services in developing countries like Indonesia. It was thought that conducting the ISBT Congress in Indonesia could promote an improvement of blood services in the country. However, at that time we doubted to propose having the ISBT Congress in Indonesia due to the limited experience of the Indonesian Association of Transfusion Medicine (IATM) in conducting an International level of congress in the blood transfusion field.

After having an experience in 2005 of conducting the NATA Congress in Jakarta and with encouragement from Dr. Diana Teo during the 33rd International Congress of the ISBT in Seoul, the idea to host a small scale ISBT

Congress in Indonesia became very exciting. So after having two meetings with the ISBT Board, we became confident to conduct the 26th Regional Congress of ISBT, in Bali, Indonesia. Bali was chosen as the venue due to its nature, beauty and ease of access for international participants.

Although this was a regional Congress, the task of organizing it was still a big challenge for us. However, with excellent assistance from Judith Chapman, ISBT Executive Director, Sophie Sanders, the MCI ISBT Project Manager and all the IATM Colleagues, the work in preparing the congress was no longer a burden. Wonderful support also came from Celso Bianco as the ISBT President.

Ellen van der Schoot, the ISBT Scientific Secretary, Diana Teo and Peter Flanagan our close friend and of course





Celso Bianco handing over the Talking Stick to Yuyun

the local scientific committee did a great job in preparing an excellent scientific program, that not only dealt with traditional topics of transfusion medicine and clinical aspects of transfusion medicine but also relevant topics for developing countries such as the implementation of quality management in blood services. 290 abstracts were received from 35 countries and 241 accepted. There were 44 invited speakers presenting their cutting-edge research, all sessions were well attended and followed by lively discussions between speakers and the audience. The number of participants was 1068 including booth personnel. There were 51 exhibitors making it the largest ever non European Regional congress exhibition.

Being present in Bali without watching the performance of traditional Bali Dancing is not complete. Therefore, the opening ceremony started with the traditional “Sekar Jagat” dance which was a dancing performance that is commonly used for the opening ceremony of such occasions, followed by a “Cendrawasih Dance”, that told about a specific pair of bird from Irian Jaya island, the most east island of Indonesia.

The attendance of the Ministry of Health representative at the opening ceremony brought us happiness, showing the improvement in support of the government for blood services.

During the Gala Dinner, the music of the bamboo instrument was played. All the guests had the chance to learn to play music with these instruments. There were more than 5 international songs to play together by almost all participants directed by coryphaeus. In less than one hour all the guests were able to play the bamboo instrument in harmony. This was a great and unforgettable experience I guess even for local participants. During the congress and the Gala Dinner, all participants were greeted with a taste of the delicious Indonesian and Bali cuisine.

After three days, we came to the end of the congress. It was a little bit sad to say good bye to all friends that had become so close. But every end is a new beginning. It was a great experience and utmost pleasure working with the ISBT and hopefully the congress in Bali will remain as a pleasant memory for all participants.



Financial Summary



Steve Morgan,
Treasurer

This Report will be my last as Treasurer of ISBT. I will hand over to my successor at the Dubai International Congress in September 2016, after eight enjoyable years.

The financial year ended 31 March 2016 saw ISBT hold two successful regional conferences, in London, England and Bali, Indonesia. The financial surpluses generated by these events allowed the society to achieve an overall projected surplus of € 0.169m. The Society will transfer that surplus to the ISBT Foundation in September 2016, for investment in key education and development projects.

At the end of March 2016, ISBT and the ISBT Foundation had cash balances of € 2.5m and € 0.3m respectively.

It is considered that the Society continues to be in a strong overall financial position, well equipped to pursue its strategic goals.

Revenue

The London Congress realised € 277k, € 69k more than planned, and Bali achieved a surplus of € 92k against a budget of € 70k, demonstrating that the new scaled down regional meeting format can be successful. Both events were well attended. Selected content from the London and Bali Congresses has been added to the ePortal, an important area of investment as the Society seeks to utilise modern technologies to support its global educational ambitions.

Individual ISBT membership fees rose from € 107k to € 129k, reflecting in part the occurrence of two congresses rather than one. Further growth in membership is expected in 2016-17, with a higher member retention rate targeted of 80%. The fee for members over 35 years old from medium, high and very high HDI countries was increased by € 5, which will increase annual income by € 6k.

Corporate partner income fell from € 150k in 2014-15 to € 134k in 2015-16. Unfortunately, the addition of three bronze partners could not make up for the lost revenue from a platinum partner who changed to a gold partner. The budget for 2016-17 will reflect the loss of Haemonetics as a gold partner. Advertising income rose slightly, from € 39k to € 42k.

Royalties from Vox Sanguinis fell from € 229k to € 212k, impacted by the decision to invest in the ISBT Science Series, and by the strengthening of the € against the £. ABN Amro Bank interest income continues to reflect low long term interest rates.

Expenditure

Tight control was maintained over Central Office costs, which fell markedly from € 764k in 2014-15 to € 680k in 2015-16.

Salary costs remained static year on year, with pay inflation compensated in part by a reduction in the working week for the Communications Manager and the Scientific Officer from January 2016 and April 2015, respectively.

Travel and meeting costs fell significantly, by € 43k. This occurred primarily because the 2015-16 Board meetings tended to be organised around the two regional congresses, with the travel costs of those Board members who were speaking being absorbed within congress budgets. Professional fees rose by € 18k, largely due to further investment in strategy planning with the Society's strategic advisors.

ISBT Working Party (WP) grants of € 119k included a significant outlay of €106k to the TTID WP. In future years this outlay will reduce as the TTID WP will broadly operate within the limits of its corporate partner income.

Steve Morgan
ISBT Treasurer

Copies of the 2015-16 full Financial Statements 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 Immunohaematology
- Working Party on Information Technology
- Working Party on Platelet Immunobiology
- Working Party 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

2. Membership information

Solely ISBT members can be member of a working party.

Besides the professionals working in the field, the Working Party has also members representing 3 companies working in the field of apheresis.

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Working Party on Apheresis had in 2015 no meetings.

4. Activities during the period

- Suggestions for the scientific program for the regional meeting Bali (2015) were internally discussed and presented to the scientific committee.
- As reported in previous years, in co-operation with European and USA professionals (physicians and nurses, from ESFH, WAA) an international course for apheresis nurses was developed in the autumn of 2012. The modular course was organized a number of times in 2015.

5. Finances

During the year ended 31 March 2016, the working party required no financial support for its activities.

Working Party on Blood Supply Management



Dr. Justina Ansah, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Dr. Justina Ansah (Director of National Blood Service in Ghana)

After the resignation of Dr. Loyiso Mpuntsha (who left the South African National Blood Service as Chief Executive Officer (C.E.O) in January 2015), Dr. Gilles Folléa acted as interim Chairperson up to June 2015. Then, the proposal to have a new Chair from Africa closely working with him as vice chair, allowing to have Africa represented and active in the BSM WP, was agreed by all members. This led to the appointment of Dr. Justina Ansah as Chair of the BSM WP with Giles Folléa as co-chair.

2. Membership information

After the resignation of Dr. Loyiso Mpuntsha (who left the South African National Blood Service as Chief Executive Officer (C.E.O) in January 2015), Dr. Gilles Folléa acted as interim Chairperson up to June 2015. Then, the proposal to have a new Chair from Africa closely working with him as vice chair, allowing to have Africa represented and active in the BSM WP, was agreed by all members. This led to the appointment of Dr. Justina Ansah as Chair of the BSM WP with Giles Folléa as co-chair.

Name	Country
Justina Ansah: Chairperson	Ghana
Gilles Folléa: vice chair	France
Mark Yazer	USA
Jacqui Caulfield	Australia
Merlyn Sayers	USA
Eugene Zhiburt	Russia
Ian Mumford	Canada
Oliver Hassal	United Kingdom
André Loua	Guinea-Conakry
Martin Smid	The Netherlands
Wim de Kort	The Netherlands
Sally Lam	Singapore
Mario Muon	Portugal
Tommy Scanes	South Africa
Neil Beckman	Australia
Skye Abraham	Australia
Nidhi Metha	India
Nigar ERTUĞRUL	Turkey

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

i) On the **28th of June 2015**, at the ISBT Congress in London, the Working Party held a **business meeting** attended by 6 delegates representing 6 countries. The topics covered were as follows.

- Appointment of the Chairperson.
- Revision of the current Terms of Reference, according to the operating principles for the ISBT WPs
- Members' list of the WP
- **Survey on blood product waste** (see below)
- **Next steps**
 - i. Oral communications and article on the survey on blood product waste
 - ii. Specific survey on blood component losses in Africa
 - iii. ISBT academic session 2016 (Dubai) on Blood Product waste assessment and reduction
 - iv. Survey on decreasing RBC demand and increasing demand of group O negative blood and components (declined because it will be addressed by the BEST WG)
 - v. Link between ISBT WP on BSM and ISBT WP on PBM (declined as the need for such a link did not appear clearly to the WP members).
 - vi. Good practices in BSM: to be drafted in upcoming months.

ii) E-mailing was the main tool used by the WP subgroup (4 members from 3 countries) on blood product losses, led by Mark Yazer (USA), to analyse the results from the survey (conducted from October 2014 to March 2015) and disseminate the main outcomes in two congresses (ISBT, AABB) and a scientific article.

4. Activities during the period

The main achievements from the international survey on **blood product wastage** (85 completed responses from 30 countries) were as follows.

- i. The methodology used for the survey was presented (poster) at the ISBT meeting in London, 2015.
- ii. The results of the survey were presented (poster at the AABB meeting, in Anaheim, in October 2015.
- iii. The results and conclusion of the survey were presented in a scientific article, issued online in December (Yazer MH et al. ISBT Science Series 2015; DOI: 10.1111/vox.12236). The median wastage rates (calculated as a percentage of the units issued) for RBC, PLT and plasma were found to be low, with no significant difference between Europe, North America and the rest of the world. A more detailed understanding of the specific mechanisms that lead to wastage around the world will help further reduce the rate.

5. Finances

During the year ended 31 March 2016, the working party required no financial support for its activities.

Working Party on Cellular Therapies



Mickey Koh, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Mickey Koh (UK)

Committee:

Peter Horn (Essen, Germany): Vice Chair

Christian Gabriel (Austria): Secretary

Reinhardt Henschler (Germany): Treasurer

2. Membership information

The mailing list consists of 39 persons including the committee. There continues to be a steady growth in members. Representation from Europe, Asia, Africa, N America and South America is encouraging for worldwide representation.

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

A working party meeting was held during the ISBT congress in London, July 2015. A copy of the minutes for the London meeting is attached.

The meeting concentrated on approving the bye-laws for the working party. In addition, the chair-person briefed the members on the activities of the WP as well as its role in interacting with other organisations like WBMT and AABB. There was discussion on the continuing projects: platelet lysates and serum eyedrops.

A face to face strategic group meeting was held amongst the office bearers in the ISBT office in Amsterdam, March 2016. Minutes of the meeting are attached.

4. Activities during the period

1. A Paper published by the working group. The paper is entitled "Human Platelet Lysates: Replacing Foetal Bovine Serum as A Gold Standard. This was published in Biomaterials.
2. Representation by ISBT at the AABB congress Oct 2015 in Anaheim. This was an ISBT-AABB joint session focused on platelet lysates and was organised by Mickey Koh who was also one of the speakers. The other 2 speakers were Claudia Cohn and Jo-Ann Reems. The idea is to replicate this session as an ISBT-AABB joint initiative at the 2016 ISBT Congress in Dubai. The topics covered included manufacture of platelet lysates and its clinical applications.
3. Mickey Koh representing ISBT was invited to participate in an international group consisting of other cell therapy organisations and hosted by ISCT on establishing standards and definitions for mesenchymal stromal cells. The initial meeting was in Paris 2014 and there was a follow up meeting at the ISCT meeting in Las Vegas 2015. A paper has been published in Cytotherapy Dec 2015 and entitled: ISCT perspective on immune functional assays for mesenchymal stromal cells as potency release criterion for advanced cell therapy trials.
4. The office bearers of the ISBT Cellular Therapies continue to be well represented at the Worldwide Network for Blood and Marrow Transplantation. Mickey Koh is the representative and Peter Horn is the other representative. ISBT continues to contribute with regards to cell therapy, graft processing and blood banking issues in this organisation which is affiliated to WHO.

5. The working party works closely with the congress scientific programme organisers and has provided input for the regional congress in Indonesia Nov 2015.
6. The WP will submit a proposal to the ISBT Board to consider adding Biobanking to its sphere of concern. This includes both research and therapeutic biobanking. Like cellular Therapy, Biobanking is an area that is growing rapidly and is emerging as an area that blood banks are increasingly involved in as the core functions of blood banking changes. This was discussed at the strategic meeting in Amsterdam.

5. Finances

The working party received support for its strategy meeting held in Amsterdam in March 2016. ISBT also funded Mickey Koh to represent the ISBT at the MSC workshop in Las Vegas.

Working Party on Clinical Transfusion



Cynthia So-Osman (left), Chairperson
Shubha Allard (right), Co-Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Cynthia So-Osman, Consultant in Haematology and Transfusion Medicine, the Netherlands

Co-Chairperson: Shubha Allard, Consultant in Haematology and Transfusion Medicine, UK

2. Membership information

Currently, the Clinical Transfusion Working Party has 36 members representing 17 countries from 6 continents. Since the WP Paediatrics has merged with this WP, 3 paediatricians/neonatologists have officially joined as new members of the WP. We have also promoting greater Transfusion Practitioner (TP) involvement and now have 5 TP members.

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

Business meeting in London at the international ISBT-congress Jun 2015: 23 members were present, and 1 member by telecon

All day interim-meeting on 29st January 2016 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands: 12 members were present in person and 5 members by telecom.

Main topics:

1. Patient Blood Management (PBM) subgroup: website and education
2. TP subgroup: proposal for ToR and preparation Dubai congress
3. Pediatric subgroup: participation in website content

Also: 3-5 interim conference calls for subgroups.

4. Activities during the period

The main activities since the London 2015 ISBT-WP meeting are as follows:

1. **PBM survey:** the results of the survey are being written up and we aim to publish the paper in Vox Sanguinis.
2. **Plasma survey:** a plasma survey has been performed of which the results have been presented at the EDQM congress in September 2015 by our WP members.
3. **PBM website:** A PBM website has been developed providing ready access to resources and tools to promote PBM implementation and sharing best practice between countries. Links are provided to other informative websites, published papers, e-learning material and audit tools. A number of chapters has been uploaded and presented at the ISAC board meeting in London. This is further being developed
4. **Transfusion Certificate:** the WP launched an initiative together with the European Blood Alliance (EBA) for developing an e-learning module for junior hospital doctors. Funding was received by EBA and ISBT for a 3-year-project. A start was made during our January interim meeting.
5. **Transfusion Practitioner involvement:** Two new TP members are contributing to the PBM website content above. The first TP network meeting was organized during the London congress. The group is expanding and another TP networking meeting in Dubai is being prepared. A ToR proposal was drafted.

6. **Paediatric subgroup:** the paediatric subgroup members agreed to have a teleconference concerning paediatric topics.
7. **Collaboration with the Thalassemia International Federation** on the development of transfusion information for healthcare professionals and patients with haemoglobinopathy.
8. **ISBT PBM education symposium at AATM/BBSBT Conference in Antalya April 2016:** The WP has helped organise participation at this conference
9. **Transfusion Indication codes:** To gain more information regarding Transfusion Indication Codes the WP agreed to use the International Forum of Vox Sanguinis as a tool. The Vox Sanguinis Office agreed to help. During the latest Interim Business Meeting on January 29th, 2016 a set of questions was being finalized to be sent as a survey.

5. Finances

The working party received support for an interim business meeting held in Amsterdam in January 2016. The meeting was well attended, and well received also by teleconference (Australian, UK, Canadian and US members).

Working Party on Global Blood Safety



Silvano Wendel, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chair	Silvano Wendel (Brazil)
Vice-Chair	Jean Pierre Allain (UK)
Secretary	Marion Vermeulen (South Africa)
Treasurer	S Hindawi (Saudi Arabia)

At-large members – Mike Busch (USA), Roger Dodd (USA), Sue Stramer (USA), Jay Epstein (USA), Ravi Reddy (South Africa)

2. Membership information

Currently, there are a total of 51 members, representing 24 countries (see attached list).

3. Meetings and telephone conferences

For the year since the Seoul Meeting the GBS working party has met via teleconference 5 times during the 2014/2015 year.

4. Activities during the period

Since the last general meeting in Seoul, the ISBT Working Party on Global Blood Safety has acted on several issues. The first one relates to the December 2014 issue of *Transfusion Today*, where a brief report about blood safety concerning several global regions like the Mediterranean, Africa, Latin America and a special emphasis on Myanmar was published.

The organizing group, through a series of conference calls decided to embark on few key issues. The first one concerns to the revision of the current statutes and future improvements based on member's suggestions; a draft is expected to be presented by September. It was

also decided to increase the number of new members, particularly from countries that were not well represented in the membership list. Thus, we welcomed two new individual members (Costa Rica and The Netherlands) and two observers (Italy and Nigeria). In addition, we expect to engage new members in our next meeting in London next June.

As emphasised in the December 2014 *Transfusion Today* Editorial, a main concern during this period “was that the threat based on the previous experience with epidemic influenza, SARS and MERS-CoV affecting the safety of blood supply in several countries of the world has brought a considerable aid for medical agencies to fight against a new threat: the newly Ebola virus epidemics in Africa.” Thus, it was defined that the main topic to be discussed in the forthcoming London meeting on June 28th is an updated view about the use of convalescent whole blood or plasma collected from patients recovered from Ebola virus disease for treatment of this terrible haemorrhagic disease. Speakers from UK, France, Guinea and the WHO Central Office in Switzerland are already confirmed for discussion of this challenging threat. In addition, two more topics will be discussed in London: a) the social effect on Latin American blood donors as result of the newly emerging role of Dengue and Chikungunya viruses; b) the real feasibility of voluntary non-remunerated donors (VNRD) plasma as the only source for plasma fractionation according to local, regional or global needs, where the global data including from developing countries and the IPFA position will be brought under discussion.

5. Finances

The working party received support to cover office costs.

Working Party on Donors and Donation



Peter Van Den Burg (left), Chairperson
Cheuk-Kwong Lee (right), Co-Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Dr. P.J.M. van den Burg, Chair
 Dr. Cheuk-Kwong LEE, Chair
 Dr. K. Magnussen, Vice chair
 Matt Granato, Secretary

The working part Donors & Donation has met during the ISBT in London in 2015 and agreed on changes in the management of the working party. Karin was elected as vice chair instead of secretary and Matt Granato took over the position as secretary. The cooperation with the working party hemovigilance, with respect to donor vigilance, is continued and Karin Magnussen is as chair of the donor vigilance subgroup the linking pin between the two working parties.

2. Membership information

The WP D&D has 35 members from 20 different countries.

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The WP D&D has met during the ISBT in London, 10 members were present. The WP D&D board has regular contact, by mail and teleconferences.

4. Activities during the period

In 2015 the working party D&D focused on several topics:

- Education. As partner of the European Donor Health Care (DoHeCa) project several members contributed to the development of the educational program DoHeCa. This activity is an great and important activity and in the end of 2016 the program DoHeCa should be completed. The intended start of the master program

DoHeCa is planned in 2017.

There is an opportunity to collaborate with the Syncopedia Foundation to develop state of the art information with respect to fainting for both professionals and donors. A request for financial support for 2016 was send to the ISBT board.

- Scientific research. Ideas for scientific research were shared and a collaboration is initiated to organize an international donor research consortium. In addition, a request is done to the board to participate in the young investigators breakfast during the ISBAT Dubai 2016. Scientific research. Ideas for scientific research were shared and a collaboration is initiated to organize an international donor research consortium. In addition, a request is done to the board to participate in the young investigators breakfast during the ISBAT Dubai 2016.
- Voluntary non-remunerated donations. The WP D&D promotes and facilitates the non-remunerated donations by sharing experiences and presentations during international congresses.

5. Finances

The ISBT funded the honorarium for activities of the Syncopedia Foundation in the initial development of the ISBT /DoHeCa module donor fainting.

Working Party on Granulocyte Immunobiology



Lin Fung, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Working Party Chair: Lin Fung (University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia)

Nomenclature Subcommittee:

Chair: Brigette Flesch (German Red Cross Blood Service West)

Members: Ulrich Sachs (Giessen, Germany),
Masja DeHaas (Amsterdam, Netherlands),
Brian Curtis (Milwaukee, USA),
Geoff Lucas (Bristol, UK)

International Granulocyte Immunobiology Workshop (IGIW) Steering Committee

Chair: Lin Fung (University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia)

Members: Jurgen Bux (Germany)
Geoff Lucas (Bristol, UK)
Brian Curtis (Wisconsin, USA)

2. Membership information

ISBT members: 28 (estimate)
Countries represented: 17

3. Activities during the period

- (a) ISBT London, GIWP meeting.
- (b) ISBT Bali, 2nd ISBT Granulocyte Practicum: Chaired by Dr. L. Fung
- (c) International Granulocyte Immunobiology Workshop 2015 organised by Dr. B Curtis, Milwaukee, USA.
- (d) International Granulocyte Immunobiology Workshop 2016 organised by Dr. L Fung, Australia & R Schuller, Minnesota, USA.

4. Activities during the period

- (a) **London ISBT GIWP meeting:** Chaired by Dr. Brigette Flesch
25 people attended
3 presentations:
 - 1) International Granulocyte Immunobiology Workshop 2015 organised by Dr. B Curtis, Milwaukee, USA.
 - 2) B Flesch – Update on HNA nomenclature
 - 3) A Wikman – information on upcoming European Symposium of Platelet and Granulocyte Immunobiology in Stockholm, May 2016.
- (b) **ISBT Bali, 2nd ISBT Granulocyte Practicum:** Chaired by Dr. L. Fung
24 participants from 7 countries
Hands on practicum on Monoclonal Antibody Immobilisation of Granulocyte Antigen (MAIGA)
- (c) **International Granulocyte Immunobiology Workshop 2015** organised by Dr. B Curtis, Milwaukee, USA.
18 participating labs from 13 countries
17/18 passed serology component and 15/18 passed genotyping component
- (d) **International Granulocyte Immunobiology Workshop 2016** organised by Dr. L Fung, Australia & R Schuller, Minnesota, USA.
19 participating labs from 14 countries (New participant from Denmark)
Results being finalised and will be released in May 2016

5. Finances

The working party received € 4873 from the ISBT Academy to cover expenses directly related to 2nd Granulocyte Practicum held just prior to 2015 ISBT Regional Congress in Bali.

Working Party on Haemovigilance



Johanna (Jo) Wiersum-Osselton, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Johanna (Jo) Wiersum-Osselton

Committee:

- Maria Antonia Escoval, secretary
- Jean-Claude Faber, treasurer
- Mickey Koh, member;
- Kevin Land, chair elect (from June 2015)
- Karin Magnussen
- Erica Wood (ex-officio, president of the International Haemovigilance Network).

2. Membership information

At the request of the ISBT office, the mailing list was reviewed and working party attendees and contacts who are not paid-up ISBT members were asked to consider joining. As of autumn 2015 the working party had approximately 80 members and approximately 40 additional mailing list contacts, representing 40 countries in all.

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The committee held 2 teleconferences to discuss working party organisational matters. They provided programme suggestions and undertook to populate and host a session in the programme for the forthcoming congress (Dubai 2016).

The annual working meeting was held during the London congress; 57 members and guests attended. The meeting consisted of general updates, including the collaboration with WHO and links with other working parties; progress reports on work by subgroups; preparatory discussion for revision of the TOR; and presentation of results of the nomination procedure for the next working party chair.

During the year the membership participated in a validation exercise of the draft revised TACO definition. The findings were presented at the working party meeting. The revised version demonstrated improved sensitivity for capturing events which members' systems classify as TACO. However the draft version is not yet good enough so the revision subgroup will reconvene for further work.

In March 2016 the working party committee engaged in a half-day strategic reflection in conjunction with the International Haemovigilance Seminar and in parallel with the International Haemovigilance Network's more intensive strategy review exercise. The results of this will shape the proposed revised TOR.

4. Activities during the period

Recipient haemovigilance subgroup

- updating of TACO definition: revision group reconvened and held one teleconference. As of March 2016, the next steps are to be defined following input from SHOT.
- members of the recipient vigilance subgroup participated in an IHN meeting (11th March 2016) examining possibilities for collaboration in research.

Donor haemovigilance subgroup

- following the publication of the harmonised IHN-AABB-ISBT revised definitions for donation complications, a validation exercise is to be undertaken in collaboration with AABB. Members will be approached to participate in this.
- members of the donor vigilance subgroup participated in an IHN meeting (11th March 2016) examining possibilities for collaboration in research.

Finances

The working party received support to cover the cost of announcing its meetings.

Working Party on Immunoematology



Thierry Peyrard, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chair	Thierry Peyrard (France)
Vice-Chair	Nicole Thornton (UK)
Secretary	Sofia Lejon Crottet (Switzerland)
Treasurer	Mostafa Moghaddam (Iran)
Chairperson Emeritus	Sandra Nance (USA)

2. Membership information

The membership groups include the Executive Committee listed above, the so-called “Small Group of 10” from very interested attendees at the inaugural meeting in Seoul (including the current members of the Executive Committee) and the full Working Party. The small group of 10 has representation from 9 countries. The full Working Party membership is 25 ISBT members, with 16 countries represented. The Executive Committee thought that it was important to facilitate maximum member interaction at the face to face meetings, and created the pictorial membership list for the London Regional Congress (see attached).

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Small Group of 10 met in Amsterdam October 2014 to plan the next steps for the Working Party and continued the inaugural work started at the Seoul Congress meeting in 2013. The Small Group of 10 met for a 6-hour pre-meeting at the ISBT Regional Congress in London in June 2015, followed the next day by the full WP meeting (3 hours and 30 minutes). At that full meeting, 19 WP members attended along with 38 guests. The members were at the U-shaped conference table, with the guests completely surrounding the table around the room. The program aroused a great interest and participation from the attendees, with introductions of all members and guests and with the meeting agenda (described in the minutes of the WP meeting) that briefly, included the International Survey

on Immunoematology Practices, Topics of Interest, WP Website development, Case Studies in immunoematology, programming for Dubai Congress WP program and Academy Day, Clinical Significance of RBC Alloantibodies literature and case collection of outcome of incompatible transfusions, collaborating with the WP on Rare Donors. There was a social hour following the full WP meeting (funded by ISBT Board) and served to enhance the collaborative and networking nature of the WP meeting. This was enjoyed by the 47 attendees and there was much discussion and exchange. Several guests took this opportunity to express their deep interest in joining the WP in the future.

4. Activities during the period

The International Survey on Immunoematology practices was fully developed by the Small Group of 10 (66 questions), technically designed by Jenny White (from the Small Group of 10), reviewed by all the members of the Small Group of 10, and presented to the full WP who agreed to receive the first draft of the survey. During the full WP meeting, Case Study authors volunteered with a proposal of schedule for 2016, and the Case Study template was developed after the meeting. The Terms of Reference in the new ISBT format was developed by the Small Group of 10, reviewed with the full WP, finalized and submitted to the ISBT Board. There are many options for educational outreach with Academy Day and WP programming, website education using presentations from meetings, Case Studies developed by WP members, and Workshops potentially funded by the ISBT. In addition, the Chair of the WP was invited to give a short presentation at the SHOT Symposium at the London Regional Congress. survey from ISBT on the Website.

The Executive Committee of the Working Party and the full Working Party will meet at the 2016 International Congress of the ISBT in Dubai.

5. Finances

The working party received support to cover the cost of a social event after a full working party meeting in London.

Working Party on Information Technology



Pat Distler, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Pat Distler (US)

Executive Committee:

Andriessen, Jan-Willem (the Netherlands)
 Ashford, Paul (UK)
 Briggs, Lynne (US)
 Knels, Ralf (Germany)
 Knutsen, Teresa (Norway)
 Lodge, Linda (UK)
 Muon, Mario (Portugal)
 Shankar, Goudar (US)

2. Membership information

27 Members from 13 countries: Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Spain, UK and US.

13 Corporate observers

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

2 Face-to-face meetings
 4 Conference calls

4. Activities during the period

The WPIT works through four task forces (TF). The Interface TF has been working for a number of years. The RFID and Validation TFs were dormant for a number of years but are reactivated. The Traceability TF is new.

The Interface TF (ITF)

(chairperson: Linda Lodge, UK)
 is working on an interface standard that will allow

instruments to communicate with a Blood Bank Information System (BBIS). Currently, customized interfaces must be written when various instruments (scales, centrifuges, etc.) need to communicate information to a BBIS, which is time consuming and expensive. The goal of the group is to standardize communication so customized interfaces are not needed. The ITF expects to release the first version of the ISBT Interface Standard for use in Transfusion Medicine in summer 2016 for initial stakeholder consultation.

The ITF has evaluated ways in which the complexity and variations of data transfer via electronic message from instrument to BBIS can be reduced. After considering a number of options the group agreed that utilizing existing standards (HL7 and LIS2-A) was the preferred method. To date a message structure has been developed using both standards.

The RFID TF

(co-chairpersons: Lynne Briggs, US, and Wayne Bolton, Australia)
 will determine RFID can continue to be used in transfusion medicine improving traceability, quality, and safety.

Anticipated actions are:

1. Assess the state of the market for the use of RFID in healthcare settings, particularly in transfusion medicine, documenting what worked, what did not, and critical success factors
2. Based on the market assessment, seek publication of findings in relevant publication
3. Evaluate the current ISBT RFID standard particularly regarding the use of tag space for information such as genotypes, etc.

The Validation TF (VTF)

(chairman Jan-Willem Andriessen, the Netherlands) will review developments in Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) compliance for Information technology (IT). While regulations are specific to a particular region or country, they often contain guidance that is useful for all.

In Europe, Annex 11 of Eudralex, January 2011) makes a distinction between software applications and IT infrastructure for GMP regulated computerized systems. It indicates that software applications should be validated while IT infrastructure should be qualified. The VTF will develop guidance addressing the new requirements for qualification of IT infrastructure.

In the US, FDA's 21 CFR part 11 provides regulations on electronic records and signatures. The VTF will address interpretation of this document in relation to transfusion medicine and try to make an interpretation that could be a new guideline.

The Traceability TF

(chairperson Paul Ashford, UK) will work with the Haemovigilance WP to prepare guidelines on traceability that will: define traceability and explain its importance in the field of Transfusion Medicine; provide guidance on what information should be retained for traceability purposes; recommend how responsibility for traceability should be defined; consider the importance of transcription accuracy; provide measures for the timeliness of lookback; identify appropriate methods of archiving data whilst retaining traceability; and determine mechanisms to audit traceability reliability and effectiveness.

5. Finances

The working party received support for a meeting held in Amsterdam in February 2016.

Working Party on Platelet Immunobiology



Sentot Santoso (left), Chairperson

Nelson H. Tsuno (right), Co-Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Sentot Santoso
Co-Chairperson: Nelson H. Tsuno

2. Membership information

Members of the International Platelet Immunobiology Working Party (IPIWP)

Australia (2 labs, 2 persons), Brazil (1 lab, 1 person), Canada (2 labs, 2 persons), China (3 labs, 3 persons), Croatia (1 lab, 1 person), Denmark (1 lab, 1 person), Finland (1 lab, 1 person), France (2 labs, 2 persons), Germany (4 labs, 5 people), Israel (1 lab, 1 person), Japan (1 lab, 2 persons), Norway (1 lab, 1 person), South Korea (1 lab, 1 person), Spain (1 lab, 2 persons), Sweden (1 lab, 1 person), The Netherlands (1 lab, 1 person), US (2 labs, 2 persons)

Participants of the Workshop (but not IPIWP members)

Australia (1 lab, 1 person), Austria (1 lab, 2 persons), France (2 labs, 2 persons), Poland (1 lab, 1 person), Slovenia (1 lab, 1 person), UK (1 lab, 1 person)

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

No telephone conferences were organized in this period.

4. Activities during the period

In attempt to consolidate the skills of platelet laboratories in Asia, the third training course on Platelet Immunology was organized by the members of the Guangzhou Blood Centre in Guangzhou, China. During the 3-days training course (June 1-3, 2015), lectures on platelet immunology and wet-workshop including antigen typing by sequencing as well as antibody detection by antigen capture assay were provided. The identification of CD36 deficiencies and anti-CD36 antibodies (most important antigen/antibody currently found in this region) was one of the core areas of this training course. Twenty peoples from different blood centres in China participated in this course.

In November 13, 2015, educational program on platelet immunology was organized with the help of Udayana University Hospital (Dr. Ni Kadek Mulyantari) during the 26th ISBT Regional Congress in Bali. In this program, specific problems in platelet transfusions in Indonesia were presented and discussed (Prof. Abdul Salam Sofro and Dr. Teguh Tjahyono), and new findings related to mechanisms of alloimmune and autoimmune thrombocytopenias were reported. In addition, some clinical cases of alloimmune thrombocytopenia were illustrated and were elaborated by the participants. Thirtyone peoples from Indonesia, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand and The Netherlands participated in this educational program.

The organization of the 18th Workshop of the IPIWP was started in October 2015 (organized by Dr. Agneta Taune Wikman, Stockholm, Sweden). Around 30 laboratories from Americas, Europe, Australia, and Asia are participating of this workshop. The results of this workshop will be discussed during the XIVth ESPGI meeting (26-28th May, 2016) in Stockholm, Sweden. Detailed programm of the XIIIth ESPG meeting is attached (see attachment 2) and will be reported during the the 34th International Congress of the ISBT to be held in Dubai, Emirate (4-8th September 2016)

5. Finances

During the year ended 31 March 2016, the working party required no financial support for its activities.

Working Party on Quality Management



Christian Seidl, (Germany)

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson	Christian Seidl (Germany)
Co-Chairs:	Tomislav Vuk (Croatia) Paul Strengers (The Netherlands) Lesley Bust (South Africa)

Committee members*:

Jan Ceulemans, BRC-Flanders (Belgium)
Yan QIU, Beijing RCBC (China)
Hongwei Ge (China)
Dorothea Sarlija, CITM (Croatia)
Faten Mofteh, (Egypt)
Leslie Sobaga, EFS (France)
Rainer Moog, GRCBDS (Germany)
Stephanie Agoston, Sanquin (The Netherlands)
Alina Dobrota, Regional Blood Centre (Romania)
Nigar Ertugul (Turkey)
Sibel Eldemir (Turkey)
May Raouf, BTS (United Arab Emirates, UAE)
Shimian Zou, ARC (United States of America, USA)

Cooperating partners*:

Marie Laure Hequet, EDQM (France)
Jean Claude Faber, IHN (Luxembourg)
Kari Aranko, EBA (The Netherlands)
Eugene Zhiburt, (ISBT Academy – Europe (Russia))

2. Membership information

21 members from 15 countries

3. Meetings and telephone conferences

- a. Meeting Working Party QM – 34th ISBT congress London, Capitol Suite 4, Excel Congress Center, 2016 with report on the current projects, (A) Survey on Quality Management Standards (QM), (B) Survey on Quality Indicators (QI). Setting-up the project (C) on harmonising Definitions of QM.
During the meeting in London, there were also representatives from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Northern Afrika, Pakistan. Dr. Anlat Malhui, Indi; Usman Waheed, Pakistan, Dr. Zahid Hasan Ansari, Pakistan, Dr. Mhammed Jagor Seleen, Pakistan, Dr. Vijith Gunasekevg, Sri Lanka, Dr. Gama Gabrah, former NHSBT, UK linked to Northern Afrika, Dr. Nidhi Mehta MBBS, DIHBT, PGC-H&FWM, PGC-HM, Consultant – Transfusion Medicine, India.
Mrs. Virginie Ferrera-Tourenc, EFS France was joining the meeting for Dr. Leslie Sobaga and Dr. Rufica Stimec for Dr. Dorothea Sarlija, BTS Zakreb.
- b. Telephone conference (3rd of September 2015) / e-mails of the board members (ad hoc).
Topics based on the development and harmonisation of definitions and the error classification project.
- c. Telco 29th of October 2015 / Telco 12th of November 2015 / Internet Send-out on the information on the Survey Monkey – New Project Quality Indicator – 8th of April 2016.
First return analysis to be discussed during the WP-QM-meeting in Dubai.

- 3.4 Telco Jan/Feb 2016 / 14th of March 2016 Preparing the topics for the meeting of the Working Party and the proposal to contribute to the Academy and Scientific Program of the ISBT congress in Dubai 2016.

4. Activities during the period

The following projects have been performed:

- d. Quality Indicators Project. Proposal of Qis for hemovigilance systems in hospitals, given by Jean Claude Faber.
- e. Error Classification Project: This project has been initiated in 2013 with the focus to coordinate the first drafted Isit with the working party on hemovigilance
- f. Agreement to continue the survey on quality management and to enforce the regional structure by lining the ISBT survey to 'Regional' Transfusion Societies. The results of the survey will be used to develop training seminars.
- g. Initiation of a working group on the Project of harmonisation of definition for quality management (Leslie Bust (South Africa) Chairperson, Dr. Nidhi Mehta (India)
Jean Claude Faber (IHN, Luxembourg), Marie Laure Hequet (EDQM, France), Yan QIU (China)

Co-operative activities with the following organisations:
International Haemovigilance Network (IHN) represented by Jean Claude Faber.

Coordination of the QI-Project with the ISBT working party on Hemovigilance.

Coordination of training seminar with the EuBIS Academy.

5. Finances

The working party received support to cover office costs.

Working Party on Rare Donors



Christine Lomas-Francis, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Christine Lomas-Francis

Members of the Executive Committee

- Vice-Chair: Erwin A. Scharberg
- Secretary: Vered Yahalom
- Treasurer: Inna Sareneva
- Past Chair: Sandra Nance

2. Membership information

The working party on rare donors (WPRD) has 29 members representing 23 countries. All members are actively involved in their respective country's rare donor programmes. There was one new working party member in 2014: for South Africa, Ashika Sookraj replaced the retiring Coral Olsen.

Working Party members are required to be ISBT members and to share the rare donor list (by phenotype) from their country with the International Blood Group Reference Laboratory (IBGRL) who manages the WHO International Rare Donor Panel (IRDP).

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

An informal meeting for the WPRD was held at the 25th Regional Congress of the ISBT in London in 2015. Twenty-four members (or their delegates) and fourteen guests attended. The meeting topics included finalizing of revisions for the template for international reporting of outcomes in patients receiving incompatible transfusions, the WHO initiative, guided by Dr. Michael Strong to collect and catalogue information on clinical significance of antibodies for deposit at www.notifylibrary.org, report by the IBGRL on the WHO IRDP, creating an international rare donor card, enlarging the International Rare Donor Panel database by adding new countries to the Working Party, and the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicine

(EDQM) initiative to revive the European databank of frozen cells for rare donors. E-mail communication connects members throughout the year.

4. Activities during the period

The executive committee of the WPRD met with Dr. Guy Rautmann (ISBT liaison at the EDQM, Council of Europe; Strasbourg) at the London ISBT meeting to discuss the purpose and functioning of the EDQM database and concerns about the appropriate use of frozen units of rare blood as there is open access to the database. A number of articles related to the provision of rare blood and the WPRD have been or are in the process of being published including a special edition of the journal *Immunohematology* to be published mid 2016 with a focus on Rare Donor Programmes worldwide; an article entitled "International Rare Donor Panels: A Review", written by the WPRD executive committee that was published in *Vox Sanguinis*; the March 2016 issue of *Transfusion Today* has articles that highlight international collaboration and processes in place to provide rare blood products to the patient in need. Information regarding one of the rarest blood types (Rhnull) was requested by and provided to the Russian Esquire magazine.

5. Finances

The working party received support to cover the cost of a social event after a full working party meeting in London.

Working Party on Red Cell Immunogenetics and Blood Group Terminology



Jill J. Storry, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Jill R. Storry

Committee

Prof. Dr. Lilian Castilho (Vice-chair): University of Campinas/ Hemocentro, Campinas, Brazil.

Dr. Qing Chen: Jiangsu Province Blood Center, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China.

Dr. Geoff L Daniels: International Blood Group Reference Laboratory, NHS Blood and Transplant, Bristol, UK.

Prof. Dr. Masja de Haas: Sanquin Blood Supply Foundation, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Dr. Greg Denomme: Blood Center of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, USA.

Prof. Dr. Bill (W)A Flegel: Department of Transfusion Medicine, Clinical Center, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA.

Dr. Christoph Gassner: Blutspende Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland.

Dr. Catherine Hyland: Australian Red Cross Blood Services, Brisbane, Australia.

Dr. Margaret Keller: American Red Cross Blood Services, Philadelphia, USA.

Ms. Christine Lomas Francis (Treasurer): New York Blood Center, New York, USA.

Dr. Joann M Moulds: GRIFOLS ImmunoHematology Center, 201 Carlson Circle, San Marcos, USA.

Dr. Nuria Nogues: Banc de Sang i Teixits, Barcelona, Spain.

Prof. Dr. Martin L Olsson: Department of Laboratory Medicine, Division of Hematology and Transfusion Medicine, Lund University, Lund, Sweden.

Dr. Thierry Peyrard, Centre national de Référence pour les Groupes sanguins, Paris, France.

Prof. Dr. C Ellen van der Schoot: Sanquin Research at CLB, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Dr. Yoshihiko Tani: Japanese Red Cross Kinki Block Blood Center, Ibaraki-shi Osaka, Japan.

Ms. Nicole Thornton: International Blood Group Reference Laboratory, NHS Blood and Transplant, Bristol, UK.

Dr. Franz Wagner, Red Cross Blood Service NSTOB, Springe, Germany.

Dr. Silvano Wendel: Blood Bank, Hospital Sirio-Libanês, São Paulo, Brazil.

Dr. Connie M Westhoff (Secretary): New York Blood Center, New York, USA

Dr. Vered Yahalom: NBGRL Magen David Adom, Ramat Gan, Israel.

2. Membership information

Twelve countries represented by 22 experts in the field.

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

During 2015, we held a meeting at the London ISBT conference. This was attended by 13 members of the working party and by 23 guests. In addition Prof Willem Ouwehand and Dr. Karin Megy were invited to present work from the LRG consortium. The minutes of this meeting are available on the ISBT website. No other meetings were held although we have been in e-mail contact.

4. Activities during the period

We have continued to collate data on new blood group antigens/blood group systems/blood group alleles. A formal report of the Seoul and London meetings has been drafted and accepted for publication by the ISBT Science Series.

5. Finances

Although we requested € 3000,- to hold a meeting, this was not held. The working party required no financial support for its other activities.

Working Party on Transfusion Transmitted Diseases



Michael P. Busch, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson:	Michael P. Busch, Blood Systems Research Institute, San Francisco, CA, USA
Secretary:	Emma Castro, Spanish Red Cross Transfusion Center, Madrid, Spain
Treasurer:	Ravi Reddy, South African National Blood Service, Pinetown, South Africa

Corporate Members Representative:

Anthony Hardiman, Roche Molecular Systems, Pleasanton, CA, USA.

Individual Members Representative:

Magdy El Ekiaby, National Blood Transfusion Center, Cairo, Egypt.

Oversight Committee Chair:

Roger Dodd, American Red Cross, Rockville, MD, USA.

2. Membership information

Our membership brings together scientific experts, company representatives and members from leading institutions in the fields of blood safety and infectious diseases. The WP-TTID has 122 members (including observers and 15 corporate members) from 34 countries.

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Annual Meeting was held in London, UK on June 26, 2015 with a total of 112 participants. A new meeting structure was conducted with the Subgroup Sessions integrated into the General Assembly. Topics included Chairman, Secretary and Financial Reports and WP-TTID Subgroups updates: 1) Bacteria; 2) Parasites, 3)

Surveillance, Risk Assessment +Policy (SRAP); 4) TSE and 5) Virology. The assembly ended with a general discussion session, including Corporate Members' feedback. Meeting agendas and presentations can be viewed online at: <http://www.isbtweb.org/nc/working-parties/transfusion-transmitted-infectious-disease/>.

The Organizing Committee convened 6 teleconferences, partly with the Subgroup Coordinators. Main topics discussed were: meeting planning, member recruitment, funding procedures, projects, WP-TTID Travel Awards and the launch of the I TRY IT program (see below). The Corporate Members held 2 conference calls discussing: new observer status for companies, optimization of subgroups' structure, general WP-TTID output and increasing meeting frequency. Most subgroups also organized individual conference calls to discuss ongoing projects and future initiatives, and the bacterial subgroup convened an in-person meeting linked to the 2014 AABB Meeting in Philadelphia.

4. Activities during the period

The Organizing Committee and each Subgroup met by teleconference on an approximately quarterly bases. Subgroups reported the following activities:

A. Subgroup on Bacteria

Coordinators: Sandra Ramirez and Carl McDonald

The group met face to face as part of the TTID Meeting in London 2015. This meeting was well attended and comprised of 7 presentations. S. Ramirez replaced R. Benjamin as coordinator of the group in the fall of 2015. C. McDonald and S. Ramirez have held three conference calls to discuss current and upcoming studies of the

bacteria Subgroup and planned a potential meeting for the Bacteria Subgroup prior or during the ISBT Meeting (Dubai, September 2016). A conference call was held with all members of the ISBT TTID WP on February 23, 2016. The agenda included a progress report from the coordinators and other members of the Bacteria Subgroup and also new research initiatives. Minutes of the call were sent to the group on March 9, 2016.

B. Subgroup on Parasites

Coordinators: David Leiby, Evan Bloch & Silvano Wendel

During the fall, Hira Nakhasi stepped down as a co-coordinator of the Subgroup on Parasites (SoP) and was replaced by Evan Bloch and Silvano Wendel. The SoP adheres to scheduled quarterly conference calls for the review of current activities of the Subgroup and to discuss projects going forward. During the past year conference calls were held in November and February with minutes provided to the entire Subgroup. Participation in the SoP remains constant at 8 to 10 members, with collaborators from other Subgroups participating on an ad hoc basis. Current project areas include a proposed study on the seroprevalence of *Babesia microti* in China. The second primary project of the Subgroup is the completion of the manuscript derived from a “parasite survey” previously conducted by the SoP.

C Subgroup on Surveillance, Risk Assessment and Policy (SRAP)

Coordinators: Sheila O'Brien, Brian Custer, Clive Seed

In 2015, SRAP discussions focussed on risk modelling and donor deferral policy development for men who have sex with men (MSM), policy review/development for malaria and HBV incidence estimation. The sub-group held 4 conference calls to identify and prioritise projects and was active at the London Congress including presentations at the full TTID-WP meeting and during the congress. Membership has remained stable with 13 members of the TTID WP identifying SRAP as their primary sub-group. Current projects include: 1) Comparison of epidemiologic data and policy to address the risk of imported malaria.. 2) Cost-utility of blood safety screening. 3) MSM risk modelling.

D Subgroup on TSE

Coordinators: Gary Mallison and Luisa Gregori

In 2015, the ISBT TTID TSE working group held a conference call and communicated with all members of the group by email to discuss the project on evidence for epidemiological and experimental data on infectivity in sCJD blood and transmissibility of Alzheimer's disease by blood transfusion. After some discussion, the group reconsidered the project. Although the topic is still scientifically interesting, there have been changes within

the group: Drs. Cervenakova and Mallison are no longer involved in active TSE research and Drs. Hewitt and O'Riordan are near retirement. The group discussed the future of the TSE working group. It was noted that no new cases of TTVcJD have been reported and vCJD and BSE continue to be in decline (although BSE is not eradicated). However, the group felt that there are a few lingering issues that require the TTDI community to stay vigilant. All members unanimously expressed the interest to continue to be involved in the ISBT TTDI WP activities and proposed a new activity for the future: the group would update the ISBT TTDI community on important changes or developments in the TSE field as relate to TT TSEs.

E Subgroup on Virology

Coordinators: Syria Laperche, Susan Stramer, Jean-Pierre Allain

The Virology Subgroup report focused on the WP session at the 2015 London meeting and the slides presented are available on the ISBT website. Presentations included updates from Australia, West Indies and Tahiti on emerging Arboviruses and interventions, and HEV lookback study, pathogen inactivation and HBV.

F ISBT TTID Research Young Investigator Training (I TRY IT)

Coordinators: Brian Custer, Marion Vermeulen, Michael Schmidt

The ISBT TTID Research Young Investigator Training (I TRY IT) was planned for first implementation in 2015 with 4 main objectives, to complete a research protocol for a study focused on a blood safety topic, to learn how to provide and to receive constructive criticism of scientific research proposals, to conduct the research project designed as part of the program, including analysis of the collected data, and to learn essential aspects of communicating scientific results in abstracts and manuscripts. The training initiative is led by Marion Vermeulen, Michael Schmidt and Brian Custer. I TRY IT 2015 included 8 web-based lectures on study design. Funding from the TTID working party was used to support flights, registration and accommodation costs to attend the ISBT congress. I TRY IT also received substantial administrative and program assistance from ISBT Central Office.

5. Finances

The working party received contributions of € 70000,- from 14 Corporate partners during the financial year 2015-2016. Novartis, Gen Probe, Bio-Rad, Terumo, Macopharma, Abbott, GFE Blut, Cerus, DiaSorin, Asahi, Ortho, Roche, Biomeriueux, Immunetics each contributed € 5000, towards their ISBT TTID Working Party membership.

Total expenditures of €106,000 was projected at € 93000,- and expenses were related to:

- Costs associated with the ISBT congress in London for meeting rooms, catering, travel grants for two delegates, and re-imburement of individual members, and a social event
- The I Try It programme – webcast costs, travel grants and meetings in London and Bali, 3 research grants
- Administration costs, oOffice expenses, shipping costs and bank charges
- Support of the SRAP web tool

Reports from ISBT Standing Committees

- ISBT Standing Committee of the ISBT Academy
- ISBT Standing Committee on Ethics
- ISBT Standing Committee Jean Julliard Prize
- ISBT Standing Committee of Vox Sanguinis

Standing Committee of the ISBT Academy



Diana Teo, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Diana Teo

Committee

Erica Wood, Co-Chairperson

Beryl Armstrong

Peter van den Burg

Judith Chapman

Gwen Clarke

Mindy Goldman

Salwa Hindawi

So Yong Kwon

Graciela Leon

Neelam Marwaha

Shirley Owusu Ofori

Eugene Zhiburt

Jenny White

During this period, Ms Beryl Armstrong, Peter van den Burg and Mindy Goldman retired from the Committee, and Shirley Owusu Ofori, Jenny White and Gwen Clarke joined as new members. We would like to express our appreciation to the committee members who retired and to welcome the new members into the Committee. Ellen van der Schoot also joined the Committee, as the new ISBT Scientific Secretary succeeding Martin Olsson.

2. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Standing Committee met at the 25th Regional Congress of the ISBT in London. The meeting was attended by 10 members. Also present were: Dianne van der Wal, Scientific Officer at ISBT; Celso Bianco, ISBT President; and Roger Dodd, ISBT Secretary General. The following topics were discussed: Academy activities during the year including the educational events supported; the Academy Day held in London, and the forthcoming Academy Days in Bali and Dubai; the Academy budget

available for funding support of educational events; travel reimbursement policies for speakers at ISBT-sponsored events; the changes made to the Academy e-portal and plans for future enhancements; the formation of a subcommittee to review external content on the ePortal and an update on the ISBT Foundation.

The Standing Committee conducted the rest of its on-going business over the year through email.

3. Activities during the period

The Standing Committee evaluated and made recommendations on proposals for Academy support of educational events. The Academy supported a total of 18 educational events over the year across the regions, through financial support and/or use of the ISBT logo. The process for application and review is streamlined to two application deadlines a year (April 1 and October 1).

Academy Days at the London and Bali congresses were well attended. More young speakers have been involved and a wider range of topics included in the programmes. Topics selected for the two regional congresses were focused on issues more relevant to the region. The Academy Day programme for Bali followed a new format designed for shorter regional congresses, with Academy Day sessions carefully interspersed with the scientific programme sessions instead of a full one day programme.

The Academy e-Portal has seen a steady stream of users accessing its content. The topics landing page is continually refreshed, with useful review papers on under-represented topics, and the inclusion of external content from Academy-sponsored events and educational programmes like the I TRY IT programme. Future features that are under consideration include interactive features such as content rating, inclusion of content in other languages, and curating more high quality content from external contributors. It is also proposed to form a subcommittee under the leadership of Dr. Mindy Goldman to review external content uploaded onto the ePortal to ensure quality.

Standing Committee on Ethics



Smaranda Ghibu, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

The chair is Smaranda Ghibu, the members are:

Name	WHO Region
Smaranda Ghibu	Americas (USA/Canada)
Peter Flanagan	Western Pacific
Gilles Follea	Europe
Roger Dodd	Americas (USA/Canada)
Hasan Abbas Zaheer	Eastern Mediterranean
Neelam Marwaha	South East Asia
Che Kit Lin	Western Pacific
Loyiso Mpuntsha	Africa
Oscar Torres	Americas (Latin America)

Guy Rautmann from the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines, representing the Council of Europe, also attended the meetings of the SCE and contributed greatly to the work of the SCE.

2. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Committee met in London in June 2015. Prior thereto, a telephone conference took place between the Chair, Dr. Flanagan and Dr. Follea.

3. Activities during the period

The activities of the Committee were concentrated on the drafting the new Code of Ethics. A structure had been determined last year and this year a first draft was drafted, discussed and corrected. This draft is now being finalized at the Committee level in order to present to the Board and then to the General Assembly.

ISBT Standing Committee

Jean Julliard Prize



Peter Flanagan, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and Committee

Chairperson: Peter Flanagan

Members

- Jean-Pierre Allain
- Lilian Castilho
- Lin Fung
- Mindy Goldman
- Michael Schmidt

2. Meetings and Telephone conferences

All activities were performed using electronic communication (e-mails).

3. Activities during the period

The Jean-Julliard Prize Committee is responsible for managing the selection of the Jean Julliard Prize and the Vox Sanguinis Best Paper Award.

Nominations for the Vox Sanguinis Best Paper Prize are made by the editorial committee of the journal. The Jean Julliard Prize Committee received 7 nominations for the best paper in 2015. The overall standard was good. The scoring for the manuscripts was very close. The committee determined that the award should go to the manuscript titled 'HNA antibody-mediated neutrophil aggregation is dependent on serine protease activity' by T Berthold, N Schubert, S Muschter, M Rohr, J Wesche, A Reil, J Bux, T Bakchoul & A Greinacher from Germany. The prize will be presented during the opening session of the Dubai Congress.

The Jean Julliard Prize recognises clinicians or scientists who are less than 40 years of age and have a noteworthy portfolio of recent published work contributing to advances in transfusion medicine. The Prize is awarded every two years at the International Congress. This year there were 9 applications. The standard was high and two applications received close scores from the committee. Following careful consideration the prize was awarded to Gustaf Edgren from Stockholm in Sweden for his work on the SCANDAT database. The Prize will be awarded during the International Congress in Dubai and the awardee will deliver a presentation on his work.

Standing Committee of Vox Sanguinis



Roger Dodd, Chairperson

1. Chairperson and committee

Chairperson: Roger Dodd

Committee:

- Geoff Daniels
- Steve Morgan
- Diana Teo
- Dana Devine

2. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Committee meets at least once a year, in person or by telephone conference. Representatives from Wiley-Blackwell (the publisher) and the ISBT President are invited to participate in Standing Committee meetings. The Standing Committee met on May 13th, 2015.

An annual prize is awarded for the best paper published in Vox Sanguinis. Papers are nominated by the editors and the winner is selected by the Jean Julliard Committee. In 2015, the prize was awarded in London. The winners were: Y. Takahashi, K. Isa, R. Sano, T. Nakajima, R. Kubo, K. Takahashi, Y. Kominato, H. Tsuneyama, K. Ogasawara & M. Uchikawa for Deletion of the RUNX1 binding site in the erythroid cell-specific regulatory element of the ABO gene in two individuals with the Am phenotype. Vox Sanguinis, 2014;106:167-75.

A new 5-year contract between Wiley Blackwell and ISBT has been signed, as of January 1st, 2016. The financial report indicated that, for 2014, income was essentially flat compared to 2013, but income in 2015 declined, largely for technical reasons but the decline was offset by a reduction in ISBT's payment to Wiley Blackwell. Wiley reported that the number of subscriptions to the print version of Vox had declined somewhat, following a broad

industry trend but electronic and bundled subscriptions had increased substantially.

The total number of manuscripts published in 2014 was 103, a substantial increase over the 89 in 2013, as a result of the additional 10 pages in the 2014 and subsequent issues: the figure for 2015 was 111. The rejection rate for submitted papers in 2015 was 77%. Submissions and acceptances showed a good geographic distribution. The impact factor remains has declined somewhat, but the journal is ranked 30th among all haematology journals. Improved formatting for electronic versions of papers now allows access by mobile devices.

The development of ISBT Science Series continues and it is anticipated that, once the content has stabilized, a submission for PubMed indexing will be made, likely within the next year.

The Central Office surveyed the ISBT membership to determine attitudes towards converting to a fully-electronic delivery of Vox: at this time, the option is not attractive enough to justify such a change.

ISBT Foundation



Geoff Daniels, Chairperson

The objectives of the ISBT Foundation are to enhance transfusion medicine by expanding knowledge and education on blood transfusion medicine, transfusion science, blood banking and related disciplines, and by supporting the objectives of the ISBT. The Foundation was initially established in 2006, but was reconstituted in 2013 with a new Board and a major focus on education in transfusion-related fields, especially in the developing world. This is achieved primarily by providing financial support to the ISBT Academy, which facilitates the educational activities of the Society.

The Foundation is managed by a Board of Directors comprising the Secretary General of ISBT (currently Roger Dodd), the Treasurer of ISBT (Steve Morgan), and the Chairperson of the Standing Committee of the ISBT Academy (Diana Teo), plus two other ISBT members elected by the Board of ISBT (Geoff Daniels and Martin Gorham). The Chair of the Foundation Board is Geoff Daniels, Vice-Chair is Martin Gorham, Secretary is Roger Dodd, and Treasurer is Steve Morgan. None of the Board members receives any remuneration; all are volunteers interested in the provision of safe blood supply for patients. The Foundation is advised by the ISBT Academy Standing Committee, which reviews applications for financial support for educational purposes.

To ensure effective governance and to comply with Dutch law, the Foundation complies with statutes approved by the Foundation Board in 2014.

During the 2015/16 financial year the Foundation has provided financial support for a number of meetings, including those of the African Society for Blood Transfusion, Asociación Argentina de Hemoterapia, Indian Immunohaematology Initiative, European School of Transfusion Medicine, Australian & New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion, Asian Association of Transfusion Medicine, La Asociación Colombiana de Bancos de Sangre y Medicina Transfusional, and the Russian Transfusionists' Association. It also provided financial support to Mzuzu University, Malawi for classroom refurbishment and to the ISBT for provision of congress webcasts and for development of the E-learning portal.

ISBT Award and Prizes

- The ISBT Award
- The Vox Sanguinis Best Paper Prize

The ISBT Award

Imelda Bates

Since working in Kumasi, Ghana from 1986 – 1989 where she established a clinical haematology service, Imelda has been committed to haematology and blood transfusion provision in sub Saharan Africa. Imelda was one of the driving forces behind the successful application for EU funding for TRec an international consortium of academics and health practitioners working to strengthen the capacity of African researchers to carry out research in blood transfusion. The project came to an end in March and during the three years has funded 4 PhD students, a one year course for blood service professionals to undertake their own work based research project and many student bursaries to support undergraduate's transfusion research projects. Imelda is nominated for her extensive contribution to safe transfusion medicine provision and the development of research and education over many years in Sub Saharan Africa.



Martin Olsson

Martin is Professor and senior consultant in Transfusion Medicine at the University of Lund, Sweden. He is also the Medical Director of the Nordic reference laboratory for genomic blood group typing also based in Lund. Martin has also been a visiting scientist at the Bristol Institute of Transfusion Science and visiting Associate Professor/lecturer at Harvard Medical School, Boston. In 2011 Martin was appointed as the ISBT's first Scientific Secretary. The results of his work in this position are clearly apparent through the extremely high quality of each of the congress scientific programmes he has been responsible for from the non-European congress in Taiwan in 2011 through to the current London congress in 2015. Martin is nominated for his far reaching contribution to education within the transfusion medicine field not only within ISBT but in the capacity of invited speaker at many international and national conferences and courses.

Vox Sanguinis Best Paper Prize

Y. Takahashi, K. Isa, R. Sano, T. Nakajima, R. Kubo, K. Takahashi, Y. Kominato, H. Tsuneyama, K. Ogasawara & M. Uchikawa

“Deletion of the RUNX1 binding site in the erythroid cell-specific regulatory element of the ABO gene in two individuals with the Am phenotype.”

Vox Sang. 2014; 106:167-75



