

ISBT Young Professional Council

This year, ISBT has established a new council of Young Professionals with the mission of engaging and enriching Young Transfusion Medicine Professionals to increase their ISBT membership value and participation in the Society's activities. The council maintains communication with the ISBT board, the standing committee of the ISBT Academy, and the ISBT Central Office to ensure that the needs of the Young Professionals' community are met. It also aims to influence the strategic direction of ISBT in relation to Young Professionals and their career development.

The Council has international representation and members are appointed by the ISBT board. Young Professional Council members are selected to be ISBT members in good standing, working in transfusion medicine and under 40 years of age. The term of membership is three years from time of enrolment.

Current members of the Young Professionals Council are

Arwa Zakariya Al-Riyami (chairperson)
Tyler Hutchinson (secretary)
Yanli Ji
John-Paul Tung
Sophie Uyoga
Cécile Toly Ndour

ISBT is a great society with many learning and networking opportunities for Young Professionals. Membership of the ISBT offers great opportunities for self-learning and career development. ISBT has fourteen working parties in which members are welcome to join. Moreover, the annual ISBT congresses offer great opportunities for attendees to advance their knowledge, share their research and interact with the

experts in the field. ISBT has many activities tailored to young professionals. For instance, during ISBT Congresses Young Professionals breakfast sessions are organised. These sessions allow Young Professionals to interact with colleagues and have discussions pertaining to their work and the future of blood transfusion. Moreover, several workshops take place during the ISBT Congresses that are tailored towards Young Professionals. To support participation of Young Professionals at ISBT Congresses, ISBT offers yearly travel awards (Harold Gunson Fellowships) for Young Professionals. ISBT has a rich Education website that contains a lot of educational material including webcasts captured at ISBT regional and international congresses, educational eBooks, and the recording of the webinars on different transfusion-related topics. Moreover, the society recently launched a mobile app to access all ISBT Education material on iOS or Android mobile devices.

We aim to engage Young Professionals, enhance their interactions with ISBT, and raise awareness of opportunities and activities within ISBT. This will be achieved through the use of social media, the online platforms (website and forum) and contributions in Transfusion Today. Moreover, we thrive to increase the existing opportunities for active participation of Young Professionals in the educational events offered by ISBT such as webinars and live journal clubs. In addition, the council aims at improving the experience of the Young Professionals at ISBT congresses and improve the value of their ISBT membership in general.

To learn more about us, kindly visit the Young Professional Council's webpage at <http://www.isbtweb.org/about-isbt/young-professionals-council/>



Council members (left-to-right): Arwa, Tyler, Yanli, John-Paul, Sophie, and Cécile.