

**May 8, 2013**  
**For Immediate Release...**

**Andy Zaayenga**  
**is elected 2013-2014 President-Elect of the**  
**International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories**

**Bethesda, MD – Andy Zaayenga**, has been elected to serve as President-Elect of the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER) in 2013-2014. ISBER is governed through a nine-member Council, reflecting the entire membership with global representation from government, academia, and private industry. Mr. Zaayenga will take over the duties as ISBER President at the ISBER 2014 Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida, USA, on May 20-24, 2014.

Mr. Zaayenga has been involved in laboratory automation and robotics since 1989, first as an engineer at Zymark (acquired by Caliper Life Sciences and now PerkinElmer), a pioneer in laboratory automation; then as CEO of TekCel (now Hamilton Storage Technologies), a technology forerunner in life sciences sample management automation; then as Director of REMP (then a business unit of Tecan Group, now Brooks Automation), a market leader in life sciences sample management, then as Vice President of Business Development at HighRes Biosolutions, a leader in the design and construction of innovative robotic systems and laboratory devices. Presently he is Managing Director of SmarterLab, a consultancy for laboratory automation. Mr. Zaayenga is Executive Chair of the nonprofit Laboratory Robotics Interest Group (LRIG). He serves as Board Director of the Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS), an alliance of the Society for Biomolecular Sciences (SBS) and the Association for Laboratory Automation (ALA). Mr. Zaayenga recently completed a three-year term as an ISBER Councilor, 2010-2013, and serves on many of the ISBER Committees, including Strategic Planning, Program, Finance and Marketing. He is the founding Chair of the Automated Repositories Working Group and is a current member of the Pharma-Academic, Environmental Specimens, and Informatics Working Groups. He received the ISBER Special Service Award in 2010 and 2012. Mr. Zaayenga provides an invaluable service of scanning the literature in biobanking and disseminating summaries of articles of interest to the ISBER listserv and LinkedIn forums.

According to Mr. Zaayenga, ISBER's growth has been "significant during a time when many professional societies struggle to retain members. This is due to the energetic participation of ISBER members, as well as increasing recognition of repository science as a game-changing research driver. Our challenge is to continue to grow membership with an international focus and enable members around the world to access ISBER's best-in-class conferences, journals, working groups, educational programs, tools, forums, and dialogue among members. The ISBER Best Practices is a reference to the scientific community and I look forward to the development of other empowering instruments. Alliances and collaborations with like-minded associations and public/private sectors will allow us to extend our reach. As our membership rapidly expands, we must be ready to evolve and I welcome the opportunity to lead that change."

The **International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER)** creates opportunities for sharing ideas internationally and harmonizing approaches to evolving challenges in biobanking and repository operation. ISBER fosters collaborations, creates

education and training opportunities, and provides an international showcase for state-of-the-art research findings and cutting edge technologies, products, and services. Together, these activities promote best practices that cut across the broad range of repositories that ISBER serves. ISBER is a division of the American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP), a nonprofit educational organization. For more information visit the ISBER website at [www.isber.org](http://www.isber.org).