



International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories

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

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

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

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For Immediate Release...

**Rebecca S. Pugh, MS
is re-elected as Councilor (2012-2013) of the
International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories**

Bethesda, MD – Rebecca Pugh, MS, has been re-elected to serve as Councilor of the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER). ISBER is governed through a nine-member Council, reflecting the entire membership with representation from government, academia, and private industry. Ms. Pugh has been re-elected to serve as Councilor of the Society in 2012-2013, and will continue her duties as ISBER Councilor at the ISBER 2013 Annual Meeting in Sydney, Australia, on May 5-8, 2013.

Ms. Pugh is currently a Research Biologist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). She obtained a BS in Marine Science at the University of South Carolina in 1992, and a MS in Marine Biology at the Florida Institute of Technology in 1995.

Ms. Pugh's biobanking interests include developing specimen collection and processing protocols for environmental contaminant sampling from marine animals for long term archival. This includes tissues from marine mammals, Alaskan colonial seabirds, mussels, oysters, sea turtles, and Peregrine falcons. She is also focused on developing protocols for specimen banking activities under clean room conditions. Ms. Pugh's professional activities (ISBER and other), include serving on the ISBER Program Committee in 2008, 2010, and 2011, and serving on the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic Marine Mammal Symposium (SEAMAMMS) Planning Committee in 2008. Ms. Pugh has also been a member of the editorial board of *Biopreservation and Biobanking* (the official journal of ISBER) from 2006-present.

According to Ms. Pugh, she has "been an active member of ISBER since its founding and (has) served on Council (since 2008) as well as several ISBER committees over the years, including the Education and Training Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, and Program Committee. In addition, (she) provided information as it pertained to environmental sampling and specimen banking for the second and third editions of the *ISBER Best Practices*." Ms. Pugh states that "watching ISBER grow over the years and seeing the vast array of opportunities and benefits that this Society provides to the biobanking community is so exciting and to be a part of this growth has been an honor and a privilege." Ms. Pugh hopes to "continue helping ISBER grow and to be a voice for the environmental biobanking community within this Society."

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.

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