



## Update from the President

Dear Colleagues,

As we reach the midpoint of the year, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest greetings to each of you. I hope this message finds you well and that your summer—or winter, depending on your hemisphere—is bringing you moments of peace, renewal, and inspiration.

This time of year often offers a valuable opportunity to reflect on both our personal and professional progress.

It was my great pleasure to recently connect with many of you, along with IFBLS President-Elect Hassan Aziz, at the NML Congress in Iceland—a truly inspiring and memorable event. A special thank you to the Icelandic Association of Biomedical Scientists for their warm hospitality and for hosting a congress filled with innovation, knowledge-sharing, and collaboration. I am continually inspired by the dedication and shared commitment within our global community.

In a world facing growing health complexities, alongside rapid innovations and technological advancements, your work—our work—matters more than ever. As Biomedical Laboratory professionals, we are no longer working behind the scenes—we are at the heart of patient diagnostics, public health, and scientific discovery. Let us be the ones taking the lead into the future, shaping the diagnostics and the professional roles from the points of our core values:

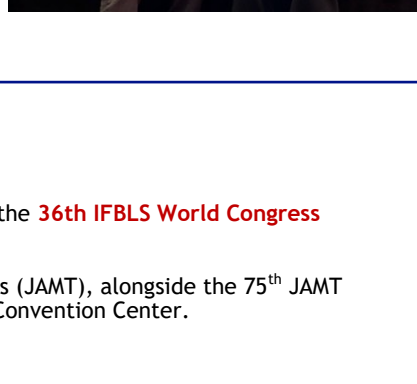
- From our professional expertise,
- From our excellence in quality assurance and patient safety,
- From our profound mindset of problem solving,
- From our genuine interest in understanding the mechanisms and performing cutting-edge research,
- And from our willingness to educate, to improve and to be a leader.

Sustainability is also taking a central place in our profession. As Biomedical Laboratory Scientists we play a key role in advancing sustainability within our field, as we are at the core of laboratory operations. Our expertise and actions directly influence the environmental impact, ethical standards, and efficiency of laboratory practices worldwide.

Wishing you a safe, healthy, and enjoyable summer season!

Warm regards,

Gabriella Lillsunde Larsson  
President, IFBLS



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## IFBLS World Congress 2026

### Save the Date - 36<sup>th</sup> IFBLS World Congress

We are excited to share that planning is well underway for the **36th IFBLS World Congress** taking place **23-27 September 2026** in Chiba, Japan!

Hosted by the Japanese Association of Medical Technologists (JAMT), alongside the 75<sup>th</sup> JAMT Congress, this event will take place at the Makuhari Messe Convention Center.

Theme: **Bridge to the Future of BLS Around the World**

Preparations are already in progress to deliver a dynamic program filled with innovation, global collaboration, and opportunities for professional growth. Don't miss this world-class gathering of Biomedical Laboratory professionals—be sure to mark your calendars!

**Stay informed!** Visit the official [Congress website](https://www.ifbbs2026.jp/) for the latest news, program updates, and key deadlines: <https://www.ifbbs2026.jp/>

Let's come together to shape the future of our profession—see you in Japan!

## 2025 IFBLS Alternate GAD & Chief Delegates Meeting



### Mark Your Calendars! 2025 Alternate GAD & Chief Delegates Meeting in Stockholm

Get ready—plans are in full swing for the **Alternate GAD and Chief Delegates Meetings**, taking place **19-20 September 2025** in the stunning city of Stockholm, Sweden!

The provisional agenda was shared back in April, and we're excited to circulate the final agenda to Chief Delegates in the coming weeks. Expect insightful discussions, strategic collaborations, and a chance to connect with Chief Delegates from across the globe.

Chief Delegates: If you have not yet submitted your **Intent to Participate** form or **Credential Certificate**, we encourage you to do so now—don't miss out on this key opportunity to represent your Association and help shape the future.

**We can't wait to welcome you to Stockholm!**

**Reminder:** Deadline to submit your **Chief Delegates Report 2025** is 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025.

## IFBLS-WHO Collaboration Update

We are pleased to share an update in our ongoing collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), under our 3-year Collaborative Workplan as an official Non-State Actor in Official Relations with the WHO.

The IFBLS recently during its active engagement with WHO through webinars and digital meetings, and most recently during the 78th World Health Assembly (WHA) held in May. In parallel, we are activating our newly revised IFBLS Scientific Network of Experts to provide timely expert input to the Board in response to WHO requests.

In alignment with our shared priorities, IFBLS has also joined other Non-State Actor organizations in submitting three joint Constituency Statements to the WHO, reinforcing our commitment to advancing global health initiatives.

Additionally, we've held constructive meetings with the European Association of Biomedical Scientists (EPBS) under ISCO/ESCO classifications. This marks a step forward in strengthening collaboration between our organizations, supported by the work of the ISCO Task & Finish Group.

Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to represent and advocate for our profession on the global stage.

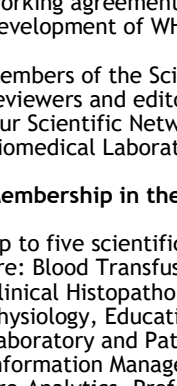
## ISCO Update

Following the IFBLS General Assembly of Delegates (GAD) held in September 2024, the IFBLS Board of Directors established an ISCO Task & Finish Group (T&FG) to lead efforts in seeking the reclassification of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists to Professional Group 2: Health Professions under the ISCO-08 framework.

As part of this initiative, IFBLS has conducted a short survey with Association Members to better understand how ISCO impacts the BLS profession in each member country. Thank you to the many members that provided this important feedback as it is vital in building our case to the ILO and to ensure accurate representation of our profession globally.

We are in the process of analyzing the responses, and we look forward to sharing updates with members at the IFBLS Alternate GAD in Stockholm in September.

## IFBLS Fellowship Nominations



**Reminder: Deadline to submit nominations is 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025.**

In 2024, the IFBLS Board of Directors was pleased to announce the inaugural launch of the IFBLS Fellowship Award, an unprecedented initiative designed to recognize visionary leaders in the field across the globe.

The IFBLS Fellowship Award is designed to provide meaningful recognition to individuals belonging to an organization that is a member of IFBLS. The individual must have contributed significantly to IFBLS, and to Biomedical Laboratory Science as a BLS, educator, clinician, advocate, researcher or administrator.

This award is designed to recognize and stimulate the striving for excellence within the field. Fellows of the International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists may use the credential FIFBLS.

Visit our website to learn more about the [IFBLS Fellowship Award](https://www.ifbbs.org/fellowship-award/)!

## IFBLS Scientific Network of Experts

### New- Call for Applications

The IFBLS Scientific Network of Experts was created to support the Board of Directors by contributing to document reviews and special projects which will benefit developments within laboratory medicine and our profession. Suitably qualified and experienced Biomedical Laboratory Scientists within all laboratory disciplines are invited to submit their CV.

IFBLS is a Non-State Actor in Official Relations with the WHO, which is underpinned by a triennial working agreement. The IFBLS Board of Directors receive calls for experts and volunteers for development of WHO documents and tasks.

Members of the Scientific Network of Experts may also be invited to submit articles, act as peer reviewers and editors for our International Journal of Biomedical Laboratory Science (IJBL). Our Scientific Network will therefore contribute to development of IFBLS as the global voice of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists.

### Membership in the Scientific Network of Experts:

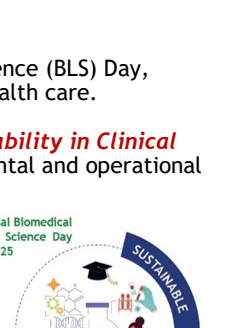
Up to five scientific experts will represent each discipline of laboratory medicine and these are: Blood Transfusion Sciences, Clinical Biochemistry, Clinical Cytology, Clinical Haematology, Clinical Histopathology, Clinical Microbiology and Virology, Clinical Pharmacology, Clinical Physiology, Education, Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics, Immunology and Serology, Laboratory and Patient Safety, Laboratory Management, Laboratory Quality Assurance/Laboratory Information Management Systems, Medical Genetics, Molecular Biology, Point of Care Testing, Pre-Analytics, Professional Ethics, Research.

The Scientific Network of Experts is constituted from the membership of IFBLS Association Members and ideally would be as geographically diverse as possible.

**Endorsement of the applicant's expertise and adequacy is required for the application through a separate letter of support from the applicant's National Association.**

The IFBLS Board of Directors will review all applications and select members based on qualifications and representation.

Visit our website to learn more about the [Scientific Network of Experts](https://www.ifbbs.org/scientific-network-of-experts/).



## International BLS Day 2025/2026

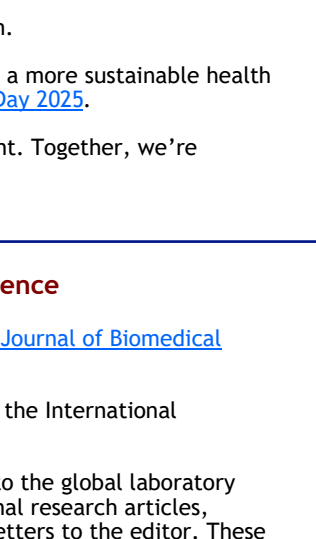
On 15 April, we proudly celebrated International Biomedical Laboratory Science (BLS) Day, honouring the essential role of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists in global health care.

This year's theme, **"Biomedical Laboratory Scientists Promoting Sustainability in Clinical Diagnostics"** highlighted how our profession contributes to both environmental and operational sustainability in the laboratory setting.

As Biomedical Laboratory Scientists, we are at the heart of laboratory operations—and that gives us a powerful role in driving sustainability. Our daily choices directly affect energy usage, waste generation, procurement practices, and patient care outcomes.

Key areas where we make an impact:

- Sustainable lab practices: Reducing single-use plastics, choosing reusable materials, and adopting low-waste testing protocols.
- Ethical procurement: Leveraging our expertise to select environmentally responsible products and materials.
- Workforce development: Pursuing ongoing training in green technologies and sustainable methods to stay at the forefront of change.
- Leadership & mentorship: Inspiring colleagues and teams to adopt sustainable practices through role modeling and education.



Our profession is not only advancing diagnostics—it's actively shaping a more sustainable health care future. Visit our website to learn more about [International BLS Day 2025](https://www.ifbbs.org/international-bls-day-2025/).

Congratulations to all who participated in this global recognition event. Together, we're building a healthier, more sustainable world—one lab at a time.

## IJBL - International Journal of Biomedical Laboratory Science

We are pleased to share the most recent edition of the [International Journal of Biomedical Laboratory Science \(IJBL\) April 2025, Vol. 14, No. 1: 1-39](https://www.ijbls.org/).

The IJBL is a peer-reviewed, online journal published bi-annually by the International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences (IFBLS).

It serves as a platform for disseminating knowledge and information to the global laboratory community, welcoming a variety of manuscript types, including original research articles, literature or mini-reviews, case studies, brief communications, and letters to the editor. These contributions explore original investigations across all areas of Biomedical Laboratory Science.

The journal encompasses a wide range of disciplines, including: clinical chemistry, molecular diagnostics, clinical serology and immunology, hematology, transfusion medicine, clinical virology, clinical bacteriology and mycology, clinical microscopy, histopathology, cytology, quality control and quality management, laboratory management, education and ethics, laboratory safety and other significant topics related to Biomedical Laboratory Science.

We encourage you to support IJBL by sharing this latest issue with your colleagues today!

## Britta Karlsson Educational Webinar Series

In 2022, IFBLS launched the **Britta Karlsson Educational Webinar Series**. We are delighted to have held 12 successful webinars since that first launch.

International collaboration and education were passions close to Britta's heart, and we are honoured to celebrate her legacy by offering these webinars which reflect her commitment to both.

These webinars provide a valuable opportunity to gain insights from our global colleagues and incorporate their expertise into your own practice.

Upcoming webinars for 2025 promise valuable insights—stay tuned to our [website](https://www.ifbbs.org/webinars/) for updates!

## Call for Hosts: IFBLS Event in 2027 or 2028

The International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science invites Association Members to submit bids to host one of our prestigious upcoming events:

- 2027 Alternate GAD & Chief Delegates Meeting
- 2028 IFBLS World Congress

These events are a unique and distinguished opportunity to showcase your nation's culture, hospitality, and commitment to advancing Biomedical Laboratory Science, while welcoming colleagues and leaders from around the world.

Hosting an IFBLS event places your organization at the heart of our international community—and offers a platform to inspire, collaborate, and lead.

Interested in hosting? Reach out to the IFBLS office with any questions or to express your intent: [communications@ifbbs.org](mailto:communications@ifbbs.org)

We look forward to seeing where the next chapter of IFBLS will unfold!

## IDBLSE - International Directory of Biomedical Laboratory Science Education

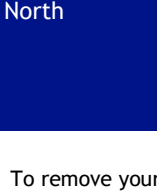
The IDBLSE Directory is available online!

The International Directory of Biomedical Laboratory Science Education (IDBLSE) was first published in 1994 by Britta Karlsson and her colleagues, in collaboration with the International Association of Medical Laboratory Technologists (IAMLT), now known as IFBLS. Initially published as hard copies and later as PDF files, the directory was renamed to the IDBLSE in 2002.

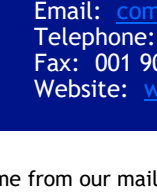
The IDBLSE aims to provide an overview of Biomedical Laboratory Science education worldwide. Please visit the IDBLSE database at <http://idblse.editime.com/> and confirm your country's educational information is correct. An IDBLSE template is available to download should modifications need to be made.

We look forward to expanding our online database. If you have any questions or comments, please email us at [idblse@ifbbs.org](mailto:idblse@ifbbs.org).

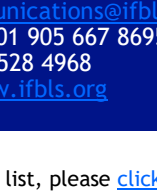
## IFBLS Board of Directors 2024-2026



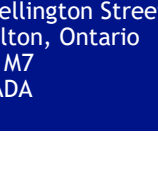
Gabriella Lillsunde Larsson - President



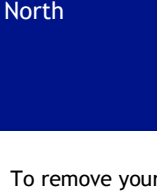
Hassan Aziz President-Elect



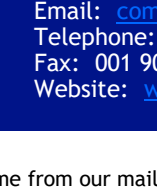
Marie Culliton Past-President



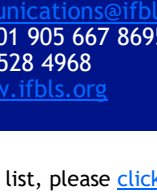
Bitten Kaanbjerg Kristensen Board Member



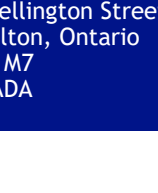
Maria Klement Board Member



Giseon Song Board Member



Alan Wainwright Board Member



Robyn Wells Board Member

## THE GLOBAL VOICE OF BIOMEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENTISTS

The International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science (est. 1954) is the world's widest reaching international organization for Biomedical Laboratory Scientists, bringing the profession, the professionals and health priorities to the world stage.

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