



Introducing the Management Team:

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- Beryl Armstrong
- Rob Wilkinson
- Swaibu Katare
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- Molly Gondwe

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AfSBT e-Newsletter



April 2016

I would like to tell you a bit more about the scientific programme we are preparing for the congress in Kigali. Last month I described the ISBT Academy Day, sponsored by the

International Society of Blood Transfusion, and focusing on **Research and the Junior Scientist**.

Lunchtime symposia

This month I can give you a little more detail about the two exciting lunchtime seminars we are planning with our sponsors. On 1 June **Roche** will be hosting a satellite meeting that debates the use of state-of-the-art TTI testing, versus maximizing blood safety in resource-constrained

environments. Speakers will address these viewpoints, and at the end of the session, delegates will vote. This is not to be missed!

On 2 June **ILEX** will be hosting a satellite meeting on the funding of blood services in Africa. There will be several speakers followed by a panel discussion on how to fund blood services. This will cover both in-country state funding, and funding from CDC, Global Fund, PEPFAR and so forth. Be there!

Scientific programme

We have had a truly fantastic response from the blood banking community, with more than 80 abstracts in addition to the presentations to be delivered by guest speakers. Check the congress website for the most recent draft of the day-by-day programme.

Update on sponsorship

Platinum: [Roche](#)

Gold: [Abbott](#), [TerumoBCT](#), [ILEX](#)

Silver: [SSEMMthembu](#), [B Medical Systems](#)

Bronze: [MAK-system](#), [Bio-Rad](#), [FRESENIUS-Kabi](#), [Medinfo](#)

General exhibitors: [LmbTechnologieGmbH](#), [Jiaying Tianhe Pharmaceutical](#), [Mediff](#), [Immucor](#), [ISBT](#), [Helmer](#), [Jembi](#), [Multi-G](#), [Zipline](#), [Rwanda Biomedical Center](#), [Kipharma](#)

Update on accommodation

Important announcement – after 30 April 2016, accommodation will be subject to availability. If you haven't yet secured your accommodation, you are urged to do so before this deadline.

Vaccination requirements

All travellers coming to Rwanda must present a valid Yellow Fever vaccination certificate on arrival. Travellers coming to Rwanda without a valid Yellow Fever vaccination certificate will obtain one on arrival at Kigali International Airport upon payment of 40 USD. http://www.afsbt.org/images/Yellow_Fever_prevention_measures-2.pdf
<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/alert/yellow-fever-angola>
<http://www.who.int/csr/don/11-april-2016-yellow-fever-drc/en/>

Visa requirements

Further to the Advisory Notice on Visa Issuance posted on the congress website, and Visa information under the General Info Tab of the congress website, we would like to reiterate that for all Africans holding an African Passport, there is no need to go to any Rwandan Embassy to apply or do online application as Visa will be issued at entry point. You will be required to pay \$30 on arrival and Visa will be issued there and then.

Beryl Armstrong – editor

Membership and voting at GAD meeting in Kigali

If your AfsBT membership has lapsed, you will not be eligible to vote at the General Assembly of Delegates on 1 June in Kigali. Therefore, if you are attending the congress, and wish to vote at the GAD meeting, you will need to renew your membership as soon as possible, or at least one calendar day in advance of the day the vote is to be taken. The AfsBT staff on duty at the AfsBT stand or at the registration desk on 31 May 2016 will be able to assist in this regard. If you have to wait until the congress to renew, please ensure that you have the correct amount in US dollars (\$ 40.00).

THE IPFA CAPE TOWN MEETING IN FOCUS cont.



“A man who uses force is afraid of - reasoning”
Kenyan proverb



AfSBT is making a Positive Difference to National Blood Programmes in Africa

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Upcoming events



Biennial congress of Africa Society for Blood Transfusion

8th International Congress of AfSBT: **Kigali, Rwanda: 31 May – 3 June 2016**

Theme: **Safe and Sustainable Blood Services in Africa – where do we stand?**

The congress website will soon become active: www.afsbtcongress.org

IPFA/PEI 23rd International Workshop on "Surveillance and Screening of Blood Borne Pathogens"
| 25 - 26 May 2016 | Lisbon, Portugal

<http://www.ipfa.nl/events/ipfa-pei-23-international-workshop-lisbon>

34th International Congress of the ISBT, Dubai, United Arab Emirates <http://www.isbtweb.org/about-isbt/congresses/>

AABB Annual Meeting: <http://www.aabb.org/annual-meeting/pages/default.aspx>

****Check the AfSBT website, at www.afsbt.org for more news items and alerts****

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<https://www.facebook.com/afsbt/>

*“Being powerful is like being a
lady. If you have to tell
people you are, you aren't.”*

Jesse Carr