

# Blood is Life



## Africa Society for Blood Transfusion

Volume 2, Issue 12

December 2016

### Introducing the Management Team:

- David Mvere
- Beryl Armstrong
- Rob Wilkinson
- Swaibu Katare
- Bright Mulenga
- Molly Gondwe
- Tayou Claude
- JB Tapko
- Chrispen Dandavare

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### AfSBT e-Newsletter



December 2016

AfSBT has now convened a new Education Committee, to meet in February next year, to discuss how to approach the large and challenging project of bringing education and training materials to the AfSBT website, and how to manage training and upskilling of professionals in the transfusion

medicine field. We are pleased to introduce you to this committee, in this issue of the newsletter.

The New Year will begin with a course of training arranged by the Global Blood Fund, in collaboration with AfSBT and the SA National Blood Service. AfSBT participated in the recent ASLM congress held in Cape Town from 3-8 December. There is a short report on both these events in this newsletter.

We have come to the end of 2016 and I am sure that this year has been as busy for you,

as it has for AfSBT and the Management Office, which has worked so hard as a team, to manage a successful congress in Kigali, Rwanda, and to develop capacity to meet the Accreditation and Education needs in Africa. I take this opportunity to wish all AfSBT members an enjoyable, restful festive season, and a year ahead that holds happiness and success in all your endeavours.

*Beryl Armstrong – editor*

### AfSBT Education Committee

**The Committee consists of members from African countries, representative of all AfSBT Regions:**

- Ludovic Anani, Head of BTS, Cotonou, Benin
- Lucy Asamoah-Akuoko, Head of Research and Development Ghana BTS, Ghana
- Michele Breuninger, Professional Development and Training Manager, WPBTS, South Africa
- Mohammed Farouk, Unit Manager, Centre for Development Services, CDS, Cairo, Egypt
- Oscar Mwashuiya, Assistant Quality System Officer, NBTS, Tanzania
- Andy Ngoy Numbi, Clinical Research Management (CRM) Inc., DR Congo

**The Committee includes overseas experts, as follows:**

- Evan Bloch, Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins School, USA
- Peter Chimkupete, Senior Lecturer, De Montfort University, UK
- Quentin Eichbaum, Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health, Nashville, Tennessee, USA
- Martin Smid, Executive Chair, Academic Institute for International Development of Transfusion Medicine (IDTM), The Netherlands
- Daniele Sondag-Thull, Administrator General, Belgian Red Cross, Brussels, Belgium

**Management Office representatives:**

- Beryl Armstrong: Communications and Marketing Manager – to chair the inaugural meeting
- David Mvere: Managing Director
- Swaibu Katare: Education Manager, Anglophone
- Jean-Baptiste Tapko: Education Manager, Francophone

## Introducing the AfSBT Education Committee members Committee Representatives – Africa

	<p><b>Prof Ludovic Anani</b> Dr Ludovic Y Anani, Médecin, Professeur Titulaire d'Hématologie à la Faculté des Sciences de la Santé, Chef du Laboratoire d'Hématologie et du Service des Maladies du Sang du CNHU-HKM de Cotonou et Directeur Général de l'Agence Nationale pour la Transfusion du Bénin.</p>
	<p><b>Dr Lucy Asamoah-Akuoko</b> Lucy is Head of Research and Development, National Blood Service Ghana (NBSG), and former Head of the Accra Area Blood Centre of the NBSG. She is a T-REC PhD student with the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom. She is also a member of AfSBT, AABB, ISBT and the BBTS.</p>
	<p><b>Mrs Michele Breuninger</b> Michele is a medical technologist, specialised in blood transfusion, and Manager, Professional Development and Training, Western Province Blood Transfusion Service, SA. She has a B. Tech degree, is involved in the Society of Medical Laboratory Technologists of SA - National Education Committee, represents blood transfusion on the Technical Advisory Committee for the Cape Peninsula University of Technology and is chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee for Blood Transfusion. Currently she is the moderator for Medical Technicians examinations in blood transfusion, controlled by the Health Professions Council of SA.</p>
	<p><b>Dr Mohammed Farouk MD, MBA</b> Mohammed is a medical doctor with post graduate specialization in Transfusion Medicine and Healthcare Business Administration. Among other posts during his 17+ years of experience in blood transfusion field, he served as the key education and human capacities building expert for several blood transfusion services' development projects in the MENA and Balkan regions. Currently he is Health Management and Research unit manager at the Egyptian consultancy firm CDS, implementing healthcare development projects in the Middle East and Africa.</p>
	<p><b>Mr Oscar Mwashiyu</b> Oscar is a Health Laboratory Scientist specialized in Haematology and Blood Transfusion. He has a Bachelor's degree of Medical Laboratory Sciences. He currently works in Quality Assurance Department of the Tanzania National Blood Transfusion Service Headquarters in Dar Es Salaam. He is a member of AfSBT.</p>
	<p><b>Dr Andy Ngoy Numbi MSc. (Biomed. Sc.) PhD. (Public Health)</b> Andy is a Clinical Laboratory and Blood Safety Specialist with a Master's degree in Biomedical Sciences and Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health. Experience includes over 10 years of project management, procurement and supply management, international consultancies and capacity building in various elements of the blood transfusion chain as well as maintenance of laboratory equipment and facilities. Andy is a member of the following international societies: AfSBT, ISBT, BBTS, the African Society of Laboratory Medicine (ASLM) and the International Association for Public Health Logisticians.</p>

## Overseas experts



### **Dr Evan Bloch MBChB (M.D.), M.S.**

Evan is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine where he is an Associate Director in the Division of Transfusion Medicine.

He is originally from South Africa where he completed his medical school (University of Cape Town) and clinical training, which first spurred an interest in infectious disease. Following completion of a combined residency in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology (Tufts Medical Center), post-graduate fellowship in Transfusion Medicine (University of California San Francisco [UCSF]) and Masters in Global Health (UCSF) he continued research at Blood Systems Research Institute, while continuing to teach at UCSF in Laboratory Medicine and Global Health Sciences. He joined the faculty of at Johns Hopkins University in the Department of Pathology in 2015.

Evan has a particular interest in blood safety in resource-constrained settings. This spans research, education and operational outreach. He is an investigator on the Recipient Epidemiology and Donor Evaluation Study (REDS-III) in South Africa where he has helped lead a series of studies on transfusion practice and HIV in the obstetric population. Blood transfusion is a severity outcome measure for a variety of disease states; as such it can be used to highlight deficiencies in care, thereby informing rational intervention. He has been actively involved in education and operational outreach related to blood safety in Africa. He is also a member of the ISBT infectious disease working party (co-chair parasite sub-group). He continues to be interested in rare and neglected infections (e.g. babesiosis) and hopes to use blood transfusion as a platform for infectious surveil-



### **Dr Peter Chimkpete**

Peter is currently the Senior lecturer in Transfusion Science, Haemostasis and Immunology with extensive experience in hospital as well as blood centre transfusion practice and laboratory quality and training management backed by sound knowledge of current issues in Transfusion science and practice. Global health practitioner with experience in establishing medical laboratory quality assessment and improvement programmes in Africa.

Institute of Biomedical Sciences 12 Coldbath Square London: Certificate of extended practice in Quality Management. Quality management principles, Quality Standards Quality Audits, Error logging, Change Management.

University of Bristol Bristol UK: Transfusion and Transplantation Sciences: Immunological and ethical issues around Blood Transfusion Science and Organ Transplantation, Practical sessions at Institute of Transfusion Science Statistics

The City and Guilds Institute London UK: Quality Assurance, Principles of Quality Management Quality standards, costs, monitoring and improvement.

Royal Free Hospital / University of London College: Post graduate Diploma in Medical Laboratory Tutorship, Learning theories and factors affecting learning.

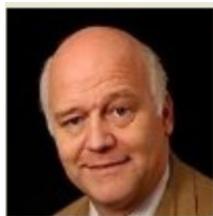
University of Zimbabwe Mt Pleasant Harare Zimbabwe: Specialist Diploma in Haematology and Blood Transfusion. Haematology and Blood Transfusion theory and practice at specialist post graduate Biomedical Scientist level

Peter is a member of AFSBT, AABB and BBTS.



### **Prof Quentin Eichbaum MD, PhD, MPH, MFA, MMHC, FCAP, FASCP**

Quentin was born and grew up in Namibia and South Africa and is an MD, MPH and PHD postdoctoral graduate of Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston. He completed his residency in clinical pathology, chief residency, as well as research and clinical fellowships at Boston Children's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital where he was also on faculty. He is currently associate professor of Pathology, Microbiology and immunology as well as associate professor of Medical Education at Vanderbilt University where he is Associate Director of Transfusion Medicine, and Director of the Transfusion Medicine Fellowship Program. He co-founded the Consortium of New Sub-Saharan African Medical Schools (CONSAMS) and is deeply involved with medical education and training in Africa. He serves on numerous international pathology and education committees and co-chairs the International Affairs Committee of the American Society for Apheresis (ASFA) and the Education Committee of the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). He also serves on numerous global health organizations including the Board of Directors of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH).



### **Dr Martin Smid MD Medicine and PhD, Netherlands**

Martin started his medical career in 1988 at the University Hospital Groningen as MD Internal Medicine for 3 years. Then he worked at the University Hospital Groningen as Consultant for Coagulation at the Haematology Department until 1996.

From 1996 he worked at the Blood Bank (later Sanquin Blood Supply), first as Medical Director later as Director/Head of Medical Affairs and Division Director. During this period he obtained an executive MBA.

At Sanquin he filled the position of Manager Transfusion Medicine, responsible for clinical interface including stem cell collection. As of 2000 he is also Advisor of the Red Cross Blood Bank Curacao. Since 2005 he is Managing Director of Consulting Services, an international unit of Sanquin, facilitating knowledge transfer in transfusion medicine by collaborating with blood services, society and the health care sector.

He also is Director of the Academic Institute for the International Development of Transfusion Medicine (IDTM), which offers a postgraduate Management of Transfusion Medicine (MTM) programme.

Martin participates in the WHO Global Blood Safety Network and also participated in the project dedicated to Patient Safety and Rights. Within the ISBT he is a member of the working party on Blood Supply Management and GBS. For AFSBT he has been member of the Step-Wise Accreditation Project Advisory Group and recently also joined the AFSBT Education Committee.

Martin has 38 international publications in haemophilia, coagulation and transfusion.

**Daniele Sondag-Thull** – Dr Sondag is away – details will follow in Jan issue of the newsletter

## ASLM Congress – Cape Town 3-8 December 2016 (<http://www.aslm.org/>)

The Congress of the African Society for Laboratory Medicine was held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre in South Africa from 3-8 December. AfsBT participated in the congress by attending several seminars and there was also a booth in the exhibition hall for AfsBT which was manned by the Administration Officer with the main objective being to market AfsBT and recruit new members.

The event was well organized in the sense there were sufficient support personnel assigned to provide guidance to delegates. This entailed orderly registration and assistance wherever required.

The congress provided a good platform for collaboration and to market AfsBT to delegates who visited the stand. It was evident that many people did not know about the existence of the Society up until that stage. After learning about activities of AfsBT and the benefits of becoming a member, many were interested as evidenced by the application forms collected, some of which were completed there and then. However, it became apparent that many were not prepared to pay membership fees to become members as ASLM membership is free.

## International Donor Recruitment, Engagement and Management Workshop in Johannesburg: 30 Jan–3 Feb 2017

During the congress in Rwanda, Gavin Evans of the charity, Global Blood Fund (GBF), approached AfsBT and SANBS with the exciting concept of providing an international workshop for African professionals, on the recruitment and retention of voluntary blood donors, GBF then worked with AfsBT and SANBS in arranging this training event, promoting it on the AfsBT website and linking it to the application portal – <http://yourbloodstory.org/idream/>. Applications were invited, and applicants were asked to explain how attendance would benefit them personally and also add value to their blood service's operations. Applicants were prioritised if they held individual or associate AfsBT membership (all applicants will be required to hold membership at the time of attendance). The response was very good, and GBF had to choose between the many suitable candidates, as only a small group could be catered for. Confirmed attendees are as follows:

- Yadelew Asmare – Ethiopia
- Ismaila Buhari – Nigeria
- Koffi Dzakou – Togo
- Josephine Githaiga – Kenya
- Khatala Liphoto – Lesotho
- Sophia Mellis-Arthur – Ghana
- Desteria Nanyanga – Tanzania
- Tichaona Saira - Zimbabwe

GBF is presently working with SANBS on a final agenda. This will be a bespoke programme consisting of a mixture of presentations, meetings, site and field visits, and a reflective workshop session. Some learning will be done together; some in smaller groups. Participants will prepare background material from their individual countries to share with others on the course.

GBF is meeting the cost of this training and SANBS is providing the venue, lecturers and site visits. Gavin Evans of GBF plans to be in Johannesburg for the duration of the event. His background is 15 years in donor recruitment and management with England's NHS Blood and Transplant so – like the participants, he will have a keen professional interest in learning from our SANBS hosts, as well as being on hand to support participants.

An early draft of the agenda has been prepared and will include some reflective learning - i.e. the group discussing together what they have seen and heard and what it means for them and their blood services - and also time for each attendee to develop personal action plans. There will be a mixture of expert talks/departmental and field visits, and Q&A sessions.

### Provisional programme

- 30 Jan: country presentations, donor relations, recruitment strategies, role of donor recruiter, marketing, planning for collections, donor communication and surveys, donor retention and volunteer worker programme.
- 31 Jan: donor education, educational material, call centre visits, IT computer systems (text messaging), tour of laboratories
- 1 and 2 Feb: field trips in groups: donor education, recruitment and collections at fixed and mobile sites
- 3 Feb: concluding workshop – defining best practice in donor education, recruitment and donor campaigns, developing personal action plans – initiatives to take home, and finally, course evaluation.

A follow-up report after the completion of this international training course is planned for the next newsletter.

**AFRICA SOCIETY  
FOR BLOOD  
TRANSFUSION**

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## Upcoming events



**IPFA:** <http://www.ipfa.nl/events/ipfa-asia-pacific-workshop-on-plasma-quality-and-supply-yogyakarta-indonesia-march-2017>: Technological, regulatory and organizational tools to produce plasma for fractionation:  
2-3 March 2017, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

**IPFA/PEI** 24th International Workshop on "Surveillance and Screening of Blood-borne Pathogens" 16-17 May 2017, Zagreb, Croatia: <http://www.ipfa.nl/events/ipfa-pei-24-international-workshop-zagreb>

**IPFA/BCA** 3rd Global Symposium on The Future for Blood and Plasma Donations, 11-12 September 2017, Atlanta, GA, USA: <http://www.ipfa.nl/events/ipfa-bca-3-global-symposium-on-the-future-for-blood-and-plasma-donations-2017-usa>

**ISBT:** 27<sup>th</sup> Regional Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark: 17-21 June 2017: <http://www.isbtweb.org/copenhagen/>

**ISBT:** 28<sup>th</sup> Regional Congress in Guangzhou, China: 25-28 November 2017

**\*\*Check the AfSBT website, at [www.afsbt.org](http://www.afsbt.org) for more news items and alerts\*\***

## Contact us

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## Like us on Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/afsbt/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/afsbt/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel)

Why not go to Facebook to access photos and news of other blood services in Africa? All you need to do, in the Facebook search screen, is to type in the name of the country, followed by the words blood service. There is a wealth of information to be found.

*"Having a good discussion is  
like having riches"  
~ Kenyan proverb*

