**Featured Speakers/Moderators**

**Upcoming Moderator**

**Tony Casina, MT (ASCP) SBB**  
Marketing Manager, World Wide Marketing, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics  
Tony has over 35 years of experience in the blood banking industry. Much of this time has been spent in the commercial blood bank reagent manufacturer sector, but he has also worked as a hospital transfusion service medical technologist in at least a part-time role. Tony has provided technical support to laboratories throughout the world, utilizing Ortho’s reagents and immunohematology test systems. He has tested some of the most challenging antibodies problems as part of his reference laboratory experience. Tony has been active in transfusion medicine, participating in the AABB by serving on committees and presenting at AABB meetings and regional blood bank meeting educational programs. For the past 12 years, Tony has worked in World Wide Marketing for Ortho Clinical Diagnostics. In his current position as marketing manager, immunohematology, he is involved in new systems and technical marketing on a global basis.

**Past Speakers Available On Demand**

**Dr. Shelley Chang**  
Transfusion Medicine Fellow, UCLA  
Dr. Chang is an active advocate of advancing the field of health care and transfusion practice through public health efforts within the hospital, local community, and abroad. She is an active champion for improved patient outcomes through evidence based and data-drive clinical decision making in transfusion practices.

**Dr. Alyssa Ziman, MD**  
Director of Transfusion Medicine, UCLA Health  
Alyssa Ziman, MD is Director of Transfusion Medicine in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at UCLA Health. Dr. Ziman is also Associate Clinical Professor of Pathology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Additionally, she is Director of the Transfusion Medicine Fellowship Program and Associate Director of the Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Residency Program at UCLA.  
Dr. Ziman’s research focuses on immunohematology, transfusion practice and patient safety, as well as donor safety and motivating factors in blood donors. In addition, she is a member of the Biomedical Excellence for Safer Transfusion (BEST) Collaborative, an international research group. She has written numerous articles for peer-reviewed publications. Board certified in anatomic and clinical pathology and blood banking/transfusion medicine, Dr. Ziman is a member of several professional societies, and she is a member of the Medical and Technical Advisory Committee for the Blood Center of California.
Ann Steiner

Transfusion Technical Specialist, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics

Ann Springer is a transfusion technical specialist at Ortho Clinical Diagnostics. Previously, she served as the supervisor of the AABB Reference Laboratory at the University of Michigan, an instructor at Eastern Michigan University, and chair of the AABB Committees on Reference Laboratories and the Rare Donor File. She is actively involved in all aspects of transfusion medicine serology, with an emphasis on Gel Technology and its automation, and has been published in journals including Transfusion and Immunohematoimmunology. She holds a bachelor's degree in medical technology from Indiana University and was accredited as a specialist in blood banking by ASCP&AABB.

Paula Pattison, MBA, MT(ASCP)SBB

Principal Scientist, Worldwide New Product Design Quality and, Subject Matter Expert, Clinical Immunohematology Ortho Clinical Diagnostics (OCD)

A 41 year experienced professional in transfusion medicine, Paula has devoted her entire career to the patient and to the donor, stridently advocating for optimal transfusion outcomes. During college and early in her career, Paula worked in hospital transfusion services of all sizes. She left hospital practice to manage the advanced reference laboratory at the American Red Cross in Rochester, NY. She was serving as the Director of Regional Laboratory Operations at the ARC just prior to joining OCD. Her positions at Ortho Clinical Diagnostics include: OCD Sales: Immunohematology Territory Manager with a focus on launching the Gel Technology in the US; OCD Worldwide Marketing: IH Product Director; OCD Product Support Operations: Principal Scientist IH Field Triage; OCD Assay R&D: Principal Scientist; and OCD Worldwide New Product Design Quality: Principal Scientist, Subject Matter Expert, Clinical Immunohematology, her current position.

Education/Certifications: AS Math/Science: Corning Community College; BS Medical Technology: State University of New York at Buffalo; MBA: Simon EDP University of Rochester; MT(ASCP)SBB; and a Licensed Medical Technologist NYS

Awards and Recognition: President’s Trophy, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, a Johnson & Johnson Company; Science & Technology Leadership, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, a Johnson & Johnson Company; Standards of Leadership, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, a Johnson & Johnson Company; Special Recognition Awards (awarded for Leadership & Significant Contributions) Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, a Johnson & Johnson Company; Outstanding Alumnus of the Year, State University of New York at Buffalo, Dept. of Clinical Laboratory Science; Alumni Service Award, William E. Simon School of Business Administration, University of Rochester
Dr. Jonathan Wallis
Consultant Clinical Haematologist, Honorary Senior Lecturer, Freeman Hospital, Newcastle, UK

Dr. Jonathan Wallis is a clinical haematologist with a typical non-transplant case mix, with a keen interest in both laboratory haematology and clinical blood transfusion. His publications include studies on risk assessments for electronic issue, leucodepletion and post-operative infection, transfusion-related acute lung injury, transfusion epidemiology, long-term survival after transfusion and the Tag & Label system for blood administration. He is currently researching effects of the age of blood.

Dr. Wallis trained at Oxford University and Westminster Hospital. Following training posts at Westminster Children’s, Exeter, St Mary’s (London) and Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals, he was appointed consultant haematologist at Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne in 1990. He was a member of the Blood Stocks project group and subsequent steering group until 2003, chairman of the Northern Regional Transfusion Committee and member of the National Transfusion Committee from 2000–2006 and chairman of the hospital-based transfusion practice SIG of the BBTS from 2004–2009. He is an associate editor of Transfusion Medicine, chair of BBTS meetings committee and chair of ISBT working party on clinical blood transfusion.

Susan Johnson
MSTM, MT(ASCP)SBB, Director, Clinical Education, BloodCenter of Wisconsin

Sue Johnson is the Director of Clinical Education at BloodCenter of Wisconsin and serves as Director of BloodCenter of Wisconsin’s Specialist in Blood Banking (SBB) Program. She has taken an active role in the education of Medical Laboratory Science students for over 20 years. Sue has also authored numerous publications in the field of Transfusion Medicine and Immunohematology and is an established lecturer on a national and international basis on the topic of Immunohematology. She is a member of the Invitational Conference of Investigative Immunohematologists (ICII). She has been an active member of AABB for over 25 years. She served as Chair of the organization’s Membership & Elections Committee and Immunohematology Reference Laboratory Accreditation Program Unit. Sue currently sits on the AABB Press Editorial Board and Molecular Testing Standards Program Unit and is an Assessor for the Accreditation Program.

Eva D. Quinley, MS, MT (ASCP) SBB
Senior Vice President, Quality & Regulatory Affairs, New York Blood Center

Joining New York Blood Center in August, 2010, Eva Quinley is the senior vice president of quality and regulatory affairs with responsibilities for all quality systems and compliance, environmental health and safety and training. She is a specialist in blood banking with more than 35 years of experience in the blood banking industry.

Eva holds a master’s degree in healthcare administration and education from the University of Memphis and a BS in medical technology from the University of Tennessee, Memphis. She is a specialist in blood banking and ASQ-certified quality auditor. She currently serves as chair of the Transfusion Medicine Section Coordinating Committee for AABB and is a member of the AABB Board of Directors. Eva has published numerous articles and most recently released the third edition of her blood banking textbook, Immunohematology: Principles and Practice. She is nationally and internationally known as an established trainer, speaker and resource for technical and quality/regulatory issues within the blood banking and plasma industries. She resides in Knoxville, Tennessee.
David Roxby
Associate Professor, Flinders Medical Centre, Australia
David Roxby is the head of unit, SA pathology transfusion services at Flinders Medical Centre and Repatriation General Hospital and an associate professor in the department of haematology & genetic pathology at Flinders University. He holds an associate fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia and also a faculty of science fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia.
David is actively involved in the Australian and New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion, and is also a member of the National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council (NPAAC) Pre-transfusion Testing Sub-Committee and a technical advisor and assessor to the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA). He has been the recipient of various research grants and published numerous original articles in medical journals and abstracts at national and international conferences. His particular areas of interest include the interface between the laboratory and clinical practice, improvement in transfusion practices, critical bleeding and massive transfusion and the safe and appropriate use of blood and blood products.

Yvonne Scott
Head of Blood Transfusion, Freeman Hospital, Newcastle, United Kingdom
Yvonne Scott started her career at the NHSBT Newcastle in 1979 and received a good knowledge in blood transfusion, resulting in FIBMS after taking the IMLS Special Examination in Transfusion Science. She moved to the Freeman hospital in 1988 to gain more knowledge in haematology and hospital aspects of transfusion, as a result of which she passed the IMLS Two-part Fellowship Examination in Haematology. She gained a promotion to BMS 2 in 1989 within the transfusion section. In 1999, the merger of the Newcastle Hospitals formed a new Trust. The Newcastle upon Tyne NHS Foundation Trust (NUTH) comprises of The Freeman Hospital and Royal Victoria Infirmary. She is currently the head of blood transfusion for NUTH and has been in this post for 10 years. The Trust is a large major teaching hospital and is a regional centre of excellence for Transplantation with a Transplant Institute, Cardiothoracics, Paediatric Cardiac Surgery, Regional Obstetrics Centre, Major Trauma Centre, Neurosurgery, Cancer Care, Paediatric Oncology and Immunodeficiency.

Jessica L. Jacobson, MD
Bellevue Hospital Center, New York University School of Medicine, NY
In her role as Director of the Blood Bank and Transfusion Medicine Service at the Bellevue Hospital Center, Dr. Jessica L. Jacobson is directly involved in implementing many changes to increase patient safety- including transfusing blood and blood products, tracking and reporting of sample collection errors, and devising solutions to the errors. Dr. Jacobson also serves as the Medical Director for the Special Hematology Laboratory, where she oversees esoteric coagulation and hemoglobin testing.
Throughout her illustrious career, Dr. Jacobson has been the recipient of several prestigious awards and recognitions including, the Adolph G. Rosengarten, Jr. Prize (University of Pennsylvania). Genetics in Medicine and Transfusion are among the many peer journals which have published her work. Dr. Jacobson also sits on the Board of Directors of both the Blood Bank Association of New York State and the Council of Hospital Blood Bank Directors. She is also a member of AABB’s Transfusion Transmitted Bacterial Contamination Work Group, AABB’s Clinical Transfusion Medicine Committee, and the College of American Pathologists.
Dr. Olga Volkova, PhD
Senior Lecturer, Director of the Laboratory at the Vladimir Andreyevich Almazova Federal Centre for Heart, Blood and Endocrinology, Ministry of Health, Russia
Dr. Volkova is a specialist in modern immunohematology and molecular-biology methods as well as a certified clinical laboratory specialist of the highest qualification grade in Russia. She regularly gives lectures on immunohematology to students, interns and specialty trainees at medical universities and is a teacher at the Posgraduate Professional Education Center for Transfusion and Clinical Laboratory Specialists. Dr. Volkova has co-authored 78 scientific articles.
Dr. Volkova graduated from Zhdanov Leningrad State University and started her immunohematology career at the Leningrad Research Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion in 1986. From 1991 to 2010, she was responsible for the immunohematology testing of donors and recipients at Saint-Petersburg City Clinical Hospital at Saint-Petersburg Pavlov State Medical University. In 1998, Dr. Volkova received her PhD and presented her thesis, “Immonohematologcal monitoring of allogenic bone marrow transplantations,” and in 2005 she successfully finished her doctorate specialization programs in hematology and blood transfusion.

Salwa Hindawi MSc, FRCPath, CTM
President of Saudi Society of Transfusion Medicine, Director of Blood Transfusion Services, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
Since 2002, Dr. Salwa Ibrahim Hindawi has served as the medical director of blood transfusion services at King Abdulaziz University Hospital. She is an associate professor in haematology and a hospital transfusion committee coordinator and member.
Throughout her career, Dr. Hindawi has remained committed to refining her expertise to remain abreast of the continued advances in blood banking. Dr. Hindawi has received the following degrees and certificates from prestigious institutions: Fellowship from the Royal College of Pathologist (London, 2007); Certificate in Transfusion Medicine from the Royal College of Physicians (Edinburgh, 2000); MRCPath from the Royal College of Pathologist (London, 1999); DipRCPath from the Royal College of Pathologist (London, 1998); MSc in Haematology from London University Hammersmith Hospital (1991); MBChB from King Abdulaziz University Medical School (Saudi Arabia, 1985).

From 2010–2012, Dr. Hindawi served as the vice dean of Medical College at Hail University. During that time she also organized the first International Conference for Saudi Society of Transfusion Medicine, which was held in Jeddah in March 2012. Dr. Hindawi is the author of the book, Introduction to Blood Bank and Transfusion Medicine, and also wrote several chapters in Hemovigilance: An Effective Tool for Improving Transfusion Safety. Her work has been published in numerous academic journals, including Vox Sanguinis, and Dr. Hindawi continues to be a featured speaker at both international and national industry conferences.

Dr. Christof Geisen
Institute of Transfusion Medicine and Immunohematology, German Red Cross, Johann-Wolfgang-Goethe-University
Salwa M. Youssef, MD
Professor of Hematology & Transfusion Medicine, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
Professor Youssef is an active advocate of redefining the art and science of blood transfusion and pushing forward this essential field of health care service. She obtained her medical degree in 1972 from the Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, where she currently serves as a professor of hematology and transfusion medicine. Her basic clinical training and residency were completed at the same reputable institution, where she earned her master’s degree in clinical pathology in 1976 and a doctorate degree in hematology in 1981.

From 1978 to 1980, Dr. Youssef was appointed as a registrar of hematology in West Middle Sex Hospital, London, United Kingdom. In 1996, she was appointed as an advisor for the minister of health and population for blood affairs, during which time she supervised the Swiss-Egyptian project for restructuring national blood transfusion services. During this time, she had the honor of being appointed as president of the Egyptian Fellowship of Transfusion Medicine.

Professor Youssef has contributed to numerous publications in the field of hematology and blood transfusion and has supervised more than a hundred master’s and doctorate degree theses in this field. She is the author of two books: The Art of Blood Transfusion and Simplified Clinical Pathology. Currently, she is the president of the Egyptian Association of Transfusion Medicine and the secretary general of the Egyptian Society of Hematology.

Jill Storry, PhD
Associate Professor, Clinical Immunology & Transfusion Medicine, University & Regional Laboratories, Sweden
Dr. Jill Storry is currently the coordinator of the Special Serology section of the Clinical Immunology and Transfusion Medicine department of University and Regional Laboratories, Region Skåne, Sweden, and a research scientist in the Division of Haematology & Transfusion Medicine, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Lund University. Jill is a recipient of the British Blood Transfusion Society’s Margaret Kenwright and Race and Sanger Awards, the Michigan Association of Blood Banks’ Kay Beattie Award and the AABB’s Sally Frank Award. She has authored more than 60 original papers and reviews related to serological and molecular aspects of blood groups and given over 100 national and international talks in the same area.

Dr. Storry is member of the Editorial Boards of Transfusion Medicine Reviews, Transfusion and Immunohematology as well as a peer reviewer for these and other scientific journals. Her research interests include the characterisation of blood group antigen carrying molecules on the RBC cell surface. She was appointed to the International Society for Blood Transfusion (ISBT) Working Party on Red Cell Immunogenetics and Red Cell Nomenclature in 2004 and has served as the chair since 2010.

Mark Yazer, MD
Medical Director, Centralized Transfusion Services & Associate Professor, Pathology, University of Pittsburgh
Dr. Yazer’s main research focus is in the area of blood group genetics, specifically the ABO blood group system. Using molecular techniques, the nature of the alleles underlying weak A and B phenotypes can be elucidated and the resulting enzyme expressed in a bacterial model to facilitate studying its reaction kinetics. These studies provide insights into fundamental questions of glycobiology and enzyme kinetics. Dr. Yazer is also actively involved in studying the coagulation effects of xenotransplantation. He received his MD from the University of Ottawa in 2000 and was certified in hematological pathology at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in 2004. He was nominated for the University of Pittsburgh’s Clinical Pathology Faculty of the Year in 2008–2010 and was awarded Pathology Faculty of the Year in 2006.
Jean Stanley, MBA, MT  
Senior Lean Consultant & Six Sigma Black Belt
Jean is a licensed medical technologist with more than 30 years of experience in healthcare. She has held positions both on the bench as a blood bank specialist and supervisor and in management as director of technical services. She also has been responsible for organizational quality assurance programs. As director of operators at the Stanford Medical School Blood Center, Jean was introduced to Lean manufacturing as a member of the original team that focused on Lean implementation in the testing and component laboratories. She went on to champion the continuing Lean journey throughout the blood center, including tele-recruitment, whole blood and automated collections, mobile operations and the materials management department. Jean left Stanford to become a Lean implementation specialist and has helped facilitate Lean operational activities for community blood banks, surgery and core lab operations. Jean earned her BS in biological science at California Polytechnic State University, followed by an internship in medical technology at Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Oakland, CA. She found that immunohematology was her area of interest, which led to her specialist in blood bank certification. She has continued to expand her knowledge, earning quality certifications and an MBA. Jean also shares her expertise as a guest speaker and as the author of articles and chapters in technical books.

Susan F. South  
Blood Management Program Leader, ValuMetrix® Services
Susan South is based in Scottsdale, AZ, and has over 35 years of experience working in and with transfusion services, donor centers, clinical laboratories, emergency departments, central sterile processing and hospital systems. She is a certified Six Sigma Black Belt, trained in process excellence (PEx), Lean implementation specialist, and J&J certified change integration process trainer and has an MA in organizational management. She has presented over 1,000 programs all over the world, programs that have included topics such as competitive positioning, change management and Lean Six Sigma.

She received a Healthcare Team Quality Award in 2005 from the Canadian College of Health Sciences Executives and 3M Health Care for her contributions to process improvements and change management and has received other awards for her contributions to the area of transfusion medicine and for her innovation and leadership. Susan has authored hundreds of scientific and administrative articles, abstracts, poster presentations and chapters in publications. Her most recently published articles include “Managing Change Isn’t Good Enough,” “The Three Ds to Successful Change” and “Exponential Error Reduction in Pretransfusion Testing with Automation.” Besides her family, her passion is sharing the power of Lean Six Sigma to transform healthcare and reduce process error potential.
Dr. Tim Hannon, MD
Chief Medical Officer, Strategic Healthcare Group LLC

Dr. Hannon is a board-certified anesthesiologist. He is medical director of the St. Vincent Indianapolis Blood Management Program, a forward-thinking program that he designed and implemented with great success. This program has reduced hospital transfusions by over 30 percent, resulting in annual savings of over 7,000 units of blood products and cost savings that exceed $4,000,000 per year. The program has also improved quality of care and increased patient safety; it is a model for innovative quality improvement. Dr. Hannon is also the chief medical officer and founder of Strategic Healthcare Group LLC, the national leader in safe, efficient, effective blood management solutions.

After graduating magna cum laude in biology at the University of Evansville, he completed his MD at the Indiana University School of Medicine, where he received the Marcus Ravdin Medal for highest scholastic achievement. He had a 12-year active duty Navy career. He served for five years as a Navy flight surgeon, and he was decorated with an Air Medal and a Navy Commendation Medal with a combat distinguishing device for missions flown during the Gulf War. He then returned to the Naval Medical Center San Diego for his anesthesiology residency, serving as chief resident. After his residency, Dr. Hannon assumed the role of director of Perioperative Blood Conservation, and was the director of research for the Department of Anesthesiology. He left active duty in 1998 to return to Indianapolis, where he achieved the rank of captain in the Navy Reserves. He earned his MBA at Butler in 2004.

Dr. Hannon is a member of the Blood Utilization, Quality Management and Audit Committees at St. Vincent Hospital Indianapolis, he serves on several state and national committees, including the Medical Advisory Panel for the Indiana Blood Center, and is the past president of the Indiana State Association of Blood Banks. Dr. Hannon is nationally recognized as a thought leader in blood management.

Dr. Kathleen Sazama, MD
Chief Medical Officer, LifeSouth Blood Center

Dr. Sazama served as LifeSouth Community Blood Centers’ chief medical officer until her retirement in October 2012. She joined LifeSouth in January 2009 and has worked on several key projects. In the past year, she oversaw the application for licensure for LifeCord, the public cord blood bank that is a program of LifeSouth. She has served as president of AABB and the Society for the Advancement of Patient Blood Management. In 2000, she received AABB’s W. Quinn Jordan Award, and in 2006 the British Blood Transfusion Society presented her with the James Blundell Award.

Joseph Thomas, RN, BSN
Vice President, Strategic Healthcare Group LLC

Joseph Thomas is a registered nurse and currently serves as vice president of program services for Strategic Healthcare Group LLC. He has clinical experience in both critical care nursing and blood management program development. In 2002, he developed a nationally recognized program built around safer, more evidence-based blood utilization and served as director of blood management for the western region of the Cleveland Clinic Health System until joining Strategic Healthcare Group in 2007. Over the past decade he has educated and mentored thousands of physicians and nurses on transfusion-related topics and worked with more than 85 hospitals throughout the country. Joseph is also a nationally recognized speaker and a published author in the field of blood management and transfusion safety.
Dr. Art Bracey, MD, FCAP
Medical Director, Transfusion Services, St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital/Texas Heart Institute
Dr. Art Bracey, MD, is affiliated with St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital/Texas Children’s Hospital and holds a position as a clinical associate professor at UT Health-Houston. He graduated with his MD from Georgetown University in 1976. He is certified by the American Board of Pathology (Anatomic and Clinical Pathology, Blood Banking) and received his specialty training at Georgetown University and the National Institutes of Health (Bethesda, MD). His specialty interests include apheresis and clinical coagulation.

Paul M. Button
Certified six sigma Black-Belt, Managing Principal, ValuMetrix® Services, Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics
Paul has accumulated more than 25 years of industrial experience in diagnostics manufacturing and has held responsibilities across many functional groups. He gained an analytical chemistry degree from the University of Wales Institute Cardiff (UWIC) in 1983 and was accepted as a licentiate of the Royal Society of Chemistry in the same year. He trained and certified as a Six Sigma Black Belt in New Jersey in 2001.

Paul held worldwide responsibility for Ortho Clinical Diagnostics’ technical customer support group from 1990 to 2000, where he collaborated with an impressive number of pathology experts in several laboratory-based practical studies. From 2000 to 2003, he ran a very busy laboratory with a throughput of 1.25 million tests per annum. Using Lean tools, he redesigned the laboratory, saving 45 percent floor space. Productivity was increased by 41 percent through the introduction of Value Stream Mapping, Flow, Pull, Line-of-Sight, Pace Maker and Visual Management. Human error defects were improved to better than 5 Sigma. In 2005, Paul was appointed as Lean design manager for the design of the operations layout in a new Johnson & Johnson production plant in South Wales, which became operational in 2009. In 2006, Paul took on the responsibility of introducing ValuMetrix Services into Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Paul is now the managing principal of the ValuMetrix Services group in EMEA.

Dr. José Antonio Arroyo
Blood Bank Technical sub-director, Centro Nacional de la Transfusión Sanguínea, México
Dr. Jose Antonio Arroyo is the blood bank technical sub-director at the Centro Nacional de la Transfusion Sanguinea, Mexico. He holds a professional degree in industrial pharmaceutical chemistry and received training to be a clinical laboratory technician from the Ciencias De La Salud, Instituto Politecnico Nacional, Mexico. He has received certified training on a wide range of subjects including fractionation and preservation of blood and its components and standardization in laboratory hematology. He is a member of various organizations such as the Asociacion Mexicana de Medicina Transfusional A.C. (AAMTAC) and the AABB. Dr. Arroyo presented his latest research abstract, “Sensitivity and Specificity of Screening Assays for Trepanoma Pallidium in Mexican Blood Donors,” at ISBT, Mexico in 2012.
Dr. Ana María Mejía  
**Blood Bank Manager, Instituto Nacional de Cardiología, México**  
Dr. Ana María Mejía Domínguez is the head of blood bank services at the Instituto Nacional de Cardiología, Mexico City. She received her MD in general surgery from Universidad Autonoma del Estado de Mexico. She completed her postgraduate studies in pediatrics and pediatric hematology from the Hospital Infantil de Mexico “Federico Gomez” and went on to be awarded a fellowship in hematology oncology at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis. She also holds a diploma in clinical epidemiology and a master’s degree in medical sciences from Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM).

Further, she is a certified hematology specialist by the Mexican Hematology Council since 1987. Dr. Mejia is an associate founder of the Asociacion Mexicana de Medicina Transfusional A.C. (AAMTAC) and serves as a committee member on the Comite de Medicina Transfusional at Instituto Nacional de Cardiología “Ignacio Chavez” and the Comite Interinstitucional de Medicina Transfusional. She is also an active member of various professional organizations, including the AABB, the ISBT and the American Society of Hematology. Dr. Mejia is an acting professor of transfusion medicine for residents specializing in cardiology and anestiology at Instituto Nacional de Cardiología “Ignacio Chavez.” She is an active research and publication fellow and has published seven papers and three book chapters, most of which deal with the clinical and laboratory practice of transfusion medicine.

Professor Shigeru Takamoto  
**Director General, Japanese Red Cross, Hokkaido Block Blood Center, Hokkaido, Japan**  
Professor Shigeru Takamoto graduated from the Nagoya University School of Medicine in 1971 and started his career as a haematologist at the First Nagoya Red Cross Hospital. In 1986, he moved into the field of transfusion medicine, becoming a medical director at Tokyo Metropolitan Komagome Hospital. Since that time, Professor Takamoto has spent a quarter of a century dedicating himself to the field of blood transfusion in various capacities and has several accomplishments to his credit, including the initiation of immunotherapy using cytotoxic T lymphocytes (CTL) for patients with malignancies which was later approved by the Japanese government as an “Advanced Therapy.”

In March, 2012, he retired from the professorship at Aichi Medical University and was honored to be a professor emeritus. From April 2012, he was invited to be a CEO at Japanese Red Cross Hokkaido Block Blood Center, where he is currently in charge of the blood programme in Hokkaido as a director general. In addition to clinical works, Professor Takamoto has also engaged deeply in academic activity. He has been a member of the JSBT (now JSTMCT) since 1986, eventually becoming president in 2007. Internationally, he has been a member of the ISBT and AABB for more than 15 years, and became a board member of the former in 2002, president for 2006–2008, and president of the Regional Congress of the ISBT, Asia in Nagoya in November 2009. Furthermore, he has been a research collaborator and chief researcher in government-funded projects for more than 20 years. Professor Takamoto is a passionate and enduring professional who has contributed most significantly to the field of blood transfusion and transfusion medicine on a global scale for more than a quarter-century.
Ira A. Shulman
Professor/Vice Chair of Pathology and Director of the USC Transfusion Medicine Service Group

Dr. Shulman has been active in various professional organizations, including the AABB, the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP), the College of American Pathologists (CAP), the Society for the Advancement of Blood Management (SABM) and the California Blood Bank Society (CBBS). He has served as chair of several national organizations’ committees, including the AABB Clinical Transfusion Medicine Committee, the Transfusion Medicine Resource Committee of the CAP and the Council on Transfusion Medicine for the ASCP. Dr. Shulman is also the author and/or co-author of more than 100 papers, monographs and book chapters, most of which deal with the clinical and laboratory practice of transfusion medicine. He is the senior editor and moderator of an internationally subscribed transfusion medicine blog called the e-Network Forum.

Don L. Siegel
M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Perelman School of Medicine

Dr. Siegel is a leading scientific expert in the field of phage display technology, blood banking and transfusion medicine, who has largely published and lectured on these fields. He is the recipient of numerous awards for his research and teaching efforts in these fields. Dr. Siegel is currently professor of pathology and laboratory medicine in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He is director of the Division of Transfusion Medicine and Therapeutic Pathology within Penn Medicine, comprising the blood bank, transfusion service, blood donation center, apheresis and infusion unit, hematopoietic stem cell laboratory, and the clinical cell and vaccine production facility. Dr. Siegel’s research laboratory focuses on the molecular characterization of the human humoral immune response in order to develop specific therapeutic agents that down-regulate immune responses in the settings of immune hemolytic anemias and thrombocytopenias, clotting disorders and transfusion reactions. Dr. Siegel has also developed and patented several phage display technologies useful for the isolation of human auto- and alloantibodies with novel diagnostic and therapeutic properties.