

## IABS-NA Overview

Following the successful launch of IABS-EU, the potential for organizing a North American affiliate was evaluated, and the IABS Executive Committee took the decision to move ahead with the project under the leadership of John Petricciani. He contacted a number of people regarding their interest in helping to launch IABS-NA, and a core group of 10 agreed to be the Founding members. Organizational meetings were held in October 2015, and the first officers were elected.

### **FOUNDING MEMBERS**

Daniel Gaudry (USA)  
Cyril Gay (USA)  
Francisco Suárez Güemes (Mexico)  
Richard Hill (USA)  
Anthony Lubiniecki (USA)  
Anthony Mire-Sluis (USA)  
John Petricciani (USA)  
Anthony Ridgway (Canada)  
Rebecca Sheets (USA)  
Girish Vyas (USA)

### **Initial Board of Directors**

Daniel Gaudry  
Cyril Gay  
Francisco Suárez Güemes  
Richard Hill  
Anthony Lubiniecki  
John Petricciani  
Anthony Ridgway  
Rebecca Sheets

### **Officers**

President – John Petricciani  
Vice-president – Rebecca Sheets  
Secretary – Daniel Gaudry  
Treasurer – Anthony Lubiniecki

In November 2015, the U.S Internal Revenue Service (IRS) granted IABS-NA status as a charitable tax-exempt organization. During the next 12 months discussions were held regarding potential topics for a conference to be sponsored by IABS-NA and other interested organizations. That effort carried forward into 2017 and 2018, concluding with the conference on *Implementing Nonanimal Approaches to Human and Veterinary Vaccine Testing* scheduled for 16-17 October 2018 at the NIH in Bethesda, MD.

John Petricciani resigned as president of IABS-NA in October 2016 and was succeeded by Rick Hill who continues to lead the organization through to the General Assembly that will be held on 15 October 2018.