



ESTABLISHING IABS-NORTH AMERICA (IABS-NA)

Following the successful launch of IABS-European Union (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)

INAGURAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

INITIAL 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 inaugural conference *Implementing Nonanimal Approaches to Human and Veterinary Vaccine Testing* held 16-17 October 2018 at the NIH in Bethesda, MD. The first General Assembly was held 15 October 2018.

John Petricciani resigned as president of IABS-NA in October 2016 and was succeeded by Rick Hill. The role of President transitioned to Dean Smith in January 2020.