



Who Are We?

- ❖ an international association of biosafety and biosecurity professionals with
 - >1100 members representing 30 countries
 - formal or informal affiliates representing
 - Europe
 - Canada
 - Asia-Pacific
 - Brazil
 - Japan
 - Taiwan
 - Several US regions



Professional Associates

❖ We have formal or informal alliances with:

- AALAS/ACS
- AIHA
- APIC
- ASM
- CSHEMA
- EPA
- OSHA
- USDA
- WHO
- UN
- Griffin Foundation



Who's Leading this Circus?

❖ Executive Board

- President - Glenn Funk
- President-Elect - Robert Hawley
- Past President - Elizabeth Gilman-Duane

❖ ABSA Council

- Treasurer - Leslie Delpin
- Secretary - Rosamond Rutledge-Burns
- Patty Olinger (departing)
- Christine Thompson (departing)
- Robert Ellis
- Joe Kozlovac

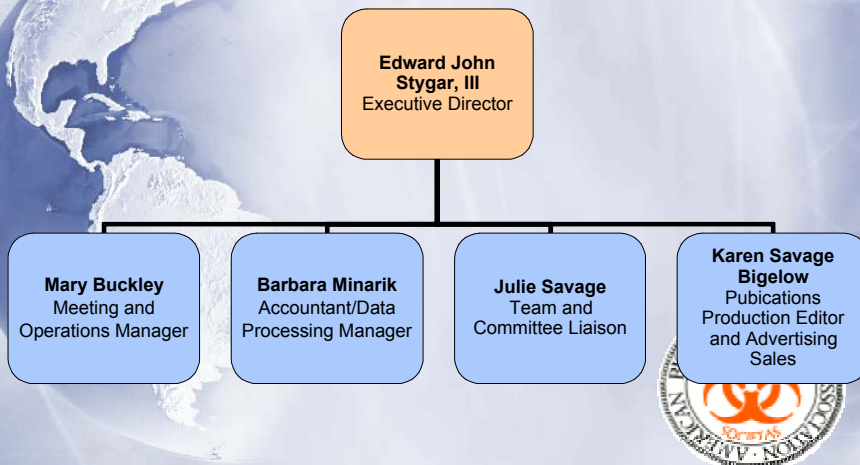


Challenges In 2006

- ❖ **Unanticipated Management Transition**
 - completion target 1 June 2006
 - transparent to members
- ❖ **Task Forces**
 - part of continued implementation of new Strategic Plan
 - two of three originally recommended, plus three new Task Forces
- ❖ **International Biosafety & Biosecurity Management Standard**



ABSA Office Organization



Original Task Forces

❖ ***Body of Knowledge***

- define the body of knowledge that comprises the biosafety discipline
 - freebie - evaluate and strengthen RBP & CBSP

❖ ***Capitalizing Our Credentials***

- how can we increase the perceived value of the RBP and CBSP credentials, and effectively promote them

❖ ***On Tap ...***

- ***Overlaps and Opportunities***



New Task Forces

❖ ***Emergency Response***

- should we?/can we? build an ERT to provide aid and expertise on request during major catastrophes

❖ ***Philanthropic Activities***

- guidelines for fair and consistent evaluation of philanthropic proposals

❖ ***Business Continuation***

- document how to protect ABSA in case of major show-stoppers



International Lab Standard

- ❖ Development of an internationally recognized standard and guidance document based on the *WHO Laboratory Biosafety Manual*
- ❖ Standard will not be prescriptive in nature but will be based upon the philosophy that the operator must understand and manage risks
- ❖ Standard will be voluntary and will not replace any national or sub-national regulatory requirements that may apply



How Will This Happen?

- ❖ CEN Workshop Process
 - internationally recognized
 - funded by EC, stakeholders and participants
 - managed by Det Norske Veritas (DNV)
 - facilitated by ABSA, EBSA, APBA
- ❖ Who will actually write the standard?
 - the biosafety professionals of the world, i.e., YOU and ME, and all other stakeholders, as workshop participants
- ❖ See the President's Column in the next issue of *Applied Biosafety*



ABSA's Future Is Very Bright!

- ❖ We continue to grow (115 new in 2006)...
- ❖ Our meetings get better each time ...
 - 2006 - Boston (Marriott Copley Place)
 - 2007 - Nashville (Opryland Hotel)
 - 2008 - Reno (John Ascuaga's Nugget)
 - 2009 - Miami (hotel choices look great!)
- ❖ We're globalizing more and more ...
 - Approved Training Provider - MOH Singapore
 - partnering with Sandia for training
 - Initial efforts in Amman February and May 2006
 - individual efforts in China and India



ABSA Boston 2006



The 49th Annual

American Biological Safety Conference

• 4 days of the conference: lectures
• state of the art papers and rounds
• Exhibits showcasing the latest in
Laboratory Technology

Marriott Copley Place
Copley Square
Boston, Massachusetts
October 12-18, 2006

