

## Charles de Bock Candidate Statement

“Why would you be a good candidate for the role you are nominated for and how do you think you would be able to positively impact the society if elected?”

One of the defining strengths of ISEH is its deeply connected community and long-standing commitment to nurturing the next generation of scientists. I see science as a human endeavour, and our members' collective expertise that ranges from normal hematopoiesis to leukaemia biology creates a unique knowledge base and network that drives innovative discovery. This is increasingly important in an international funding landscape marked by intense competition and declining grant success rates. If elected to the Board of Directors, I would build on my previous service as Chair of the Junior Faculty Committee and as a member of the Publications Committee, with three key focus areas: (i) further strengthening Experimental Hematology as a leading journal in our field; (ii) expanding career development and continuing education opportunities for early- and mid-career researchers as they transition to independence; and (iii) advancing equity, diversity and inclusion across our committees and initiatives so they reflect the breadth of our global membership.

These goals are informed by my experience within ISEH but also from postdoctoral training in both Europe and in my current role as a group leader in Australia where I have seen how diversity in skills, cultures and thought processes help push innovative science. My current role in scientific publishing and outreach with the HemaSphere Journal together with my contributions to “Society Voices” in Experimental Hematology provides a strong foundation for helping drive our journal forward. ISEH thrives when we champion it together. I am proud of what we have already achieved, and I am ready to help the Society grow even stronger, more inclusive, and more connected as a member of the Board.