



Patricia Olinger, JM, RBP, CFO, CBFRS

Patricia (Patty) Olinger is the Executive Director of GBAC[®], the Global BioRisk Advisory Council, a division of ISSA. GBAC is recognized as a leader in training, education, and certification in Forensic Restoration[®], biorisk management, decontamination and infection control disciplines.

Prior to joining GBAC, Olinger was an assistant vice president in the Office of Research Administration and the executive director of the Environmental, Health and Safety Office (EHSO) at Emory University. During Olinger's 13-year tenure, EHSO had university-wide responsibility for all aspects of environmental, health, and safety support, including EHS compliance support to Emory Healthcare. This included biosafety support to the Emory Serious Communicable Diseases Unit (SCDU), which cared for four Ebola patients in 2014. Prior to joining Emory in 2006, Olinger spent 21 years in the pharmaceutical Industry, providing support to both human and animal health research developing a true OneHealth perspective.

From 2013-2018, Olinger supported the Elizabeth R. Griffin Foundation, acting as their director of global projects. In this role, she led international biorisk management projects, obtaining practical experience with staff and facilities in extremely low resource environments worldwide. She has facilitated the development of local leadership for assessing and enhancing capacity in both laboratory and healthcare environments through safe, secure, practical, and sustainable ways, strengthening their biorisk management capacities and supporting global health security.

Olinger is a Registered Biosafety Professional, a Certified Forensic Operator and a Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialist. She has supported the development of International Biorisk Management Systems from the conception of the CWA 15793:2011 and is the current deputy convener of the ISO Working Group that is developing the ISO International Biorisk Management Standard ISO 35001. She served as a member of the External Laboratory Safety Working Group to the Director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the APLU/AAU Laboratory Safety Taskforce, was a council member of the American Biological Safety Association (ABSA), a former Scientific Advisory Board member of the U.S. NIH National Biosafety and Biocontainment Training Program (NBBTP) and is a past President of the Campus Safety Health and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA). Olinger has a Bachelors of Science in Biochemistry and a Masters of Law with a focus on International Global Health.