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I would like to submit my candidacy for a position in the executive board of the International Society for Biocuration. Since joining the Rat Genome Database (RGD) in the fall of 2003, I have been involved in many aspects of biocuration – from literature curation and gene annotation, to ontology development, project coordination and IT collaboration. The field of biocuration may be relatively new, but quality biocuration is of the essence for the information content of annotated databases. While a solid background is a requirement, it is only a foundation upon which to build a strong biocuration expertise. The breadth of what is published in the scientific literature, the givens and demands of database structure and profile, demand continuous learning, opening to and assimilation of new dimensions, communication across disciplines. It can be challenging, I find it refreshing and it satisfies my intellectual restlessness. I would like to channel the enthusiasm and passion I have for my work in ways that can increase the awareness of the community for what biocuration is and the benefits it provides, attract motivated and experienced scientists into a rewarding career path, convince funding agencies and affiliated entities of the need to support database development and integration initiatives. I believe the International Society of Biocuration provides an excellent forum for such an endeavor. I strongly adhere to the mission statement of the society and I would be delighted to devote time and energy to fulfill it.

Conflicts of interest: None declared.