



ISBNPA 2025-2026 Elections

Dear ISBNPA member

You are asked to read the information below, sent by each of the nominees, and cast your vote from November 10th to December 14th, 2025 (the terms are planned to start in June 2026).

We will elect seven positions this year. You can cast one vote in each of the positions, which are:

- President-elect
- ECR representative
- Student representative
- Member-at-large, Africa
- Member-at-large, Asia
- Member-at-large, Latin America and the Caribbean
- Member-at-large, Oceania

Running for:

President-Elect



Name:

Carol Maher

Affiliation:

University of South Australia

Planned Key Contributions

ISBNPA is an inspiring community that brings together people who care deeply about turning nutrition and physical activity evidence into real-world impact. I love that our society continues to reflect, adapt, and ask what the world needs from us next. With a new strategic plan underway, this is a great moment to shape ISBNPA's next chapter.

If elected, I'd focus on keeping ISBNPA dynamic, welcoming, and genuinely useful to its members. I'd like to explore new ways of creating connection and collaboration throughout the year, such as short "coffee-chat" pairings across regions, small online and "project incubators" where members can brainstorm and co-create outputs. These kinds of activities can help people build genuine networks, spark new ideas, and make the society feel vibrant all year round.

I'd strengthen our support for early- and mid-career researchers, who bring the energy, creativity, and drive that will define our field's future. I'd also love to see ISBNPA continue expanding its global reach, ensuring voices from low- and middle-income countries, Indigenous researchers, and practitioners are heard and supported.

My leadership style is collaborative, inclusive, and practical. I lead by bringing people together, asking questions, and creating space for everyone to contribute. I'd be honoured to help steer our vibrant community forward, building on its strengths and keeping it a place where great science, great ideas, and great people come together.

Narrative CV

I'm a Professor at the University of South Australia and Director of the 130-member ARENA (Alliance for Research in Exercise, Nutrition and Activity) Research Centre. Since becoming Director three years ago, our research income has grown by 213% and outputs by 49%. My approach is collaborative and people-centred, creating space for others to succeed and ensuring our research makes a real-world difference.

I've been an active ISBNPA member for 15 years, including a decade with the e- & m-Health SIG since its formation, serving two years as convener. For the past four years I've served on the Executive Committee, co-leading the Diversity and Inclusion strategy that launched the Global Ambassadors Program and expanded low- and middle-income country membership manyfold.

Mentoring early- and mid-career researchers is one of the most rewarding parts of my work. I currently mentor around 20 ECRs, including four through ISBNPA's program, and take pride in helping emerging researchers grow in confidence, capability and impact.

My research bridges digital innovation, physical activity, nutrition and public health. I've secured \$27M in funding, published 270 papers (h-index 76; 22,500+ citations), co-authored a WHO/UNESCO policy and contributed to global physical activity guidelines. I collaborate widely across Europe, North America and Asia, including through a new Marie Curie Doctoral Network linking European and Australian researchers.

Scientific Identifier

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Running for:

President-Elect



Name:

Scott Duncan

Affiliation:

Auckland University of Technology

Planned Key Contributions

If elected as President, I will draw on my deep working knowledge of ISBNPA's governance and operations to strengthen our global reach, inclusivity, and impact. I believe our Society's long-term success depends on how well we nurture emerging scholars and practitioners, creating genuine opportunities for mentoring, leadership, and equitable participation across all regions. While ISBNPA has grown into a truly international community, there is still important work to do to ensure stronger engagement and representation from colleagues in low- and middle-income countries. I have recently committed to an ISBNPA Task Group for identifying and removing engagement barriers for LMIC members, through which I will help to create sustainable pathways for participation that reflect the diversity of cultures and environments in which we work.

I will also champion the continued development of ISBNPA's strategic priorities by promoting sustainable practices in our operations and ensuring our conferences continue

to evolve, learn from one another, and push creative boundaries. Having co-chaired the 2025 Auckland Annual Meeting, I have seen how culture, collaboration, and joy can bring our community together. My goal is to lead ISBNPA in that same spirit: forward-looking, inclusive, and genuinely enjoyable. A Society where great science and good people come together.

Narrative CV

I am Professor of Population Health at the Auckland University of Technology and have been an active ISBNPA member for over 15 years. I currently serve as Chair of the Special Interest Group and Finance Committees, and Co-Chair of the Scientific Programme Committee, following two consecutive terms as Member-at-Large on the Executive Committee. I have also served as Associate Editor for IJBNPA since 2018, having first joined the Editorial Board in 2015.

Across these roles, I have worked to strengthen connection, transparency, and collaboration within the Society. I led a restructure of the SIG Committee to include all SIG Chairs, fostering cross-group communication, and oversaw the establishment of multiple new SIGs since 2020. As Chair of the Finance Committee, I helped guide the Society through a period of financial stability, ensuring ISBNPA is well placed for the future.

As Co-Chair and host of the 2025 Auckland Annual Meeting, I helped embed Māori culture and Indigenous perspectives throughout the conference, from the opening ceremony to the vibrant Gala Dinner: Mauri Ora. One of my proudest moments was performing a haka with my children and Kiwi colleagues at the closing ceremony of the 2019 Prague meeting to welcome the next ISBNPA to Aotearoa (albeit slightly delayed!).

Beyond ISBNPA, I serve on the Board of the International Network of Time-Use Epidemiologists and the Executive Committee of the Asia-Pacific Society for Physical Activity. My ongoing research focuses on physical activity, time-use, play, and wellbeing, reflecting ISBNPA's mission to understand and improve health through behaviour.

Scientific Identifier

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Running for:

ECR representative



Name:

Jordan Curry

Affiliation:

University of Hull

Planned Key Contributions

I am a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Hull York Medical School, UK, focusing on exercise oncology, digital technology, and mixed-methods research. My work focuses on participatory approaches to ensure that exercise is equitable and accessible within oncology care.

I have been an active member of ISBNPA for several years, serving in the Cancer Prevention and Management (CPM) SIG as Communications Officer, Social Communications Lead, and currently Deputy Chair. Through these roles, I have contributed to community engagement, the ISBNPA podcast, and the society's online presence.

Beyond ISBNPA, I serve as the ECR representative on my department's Operational Group and on multiple committees, advocating for early-career voices and inclusive research culture. I mentor ECRs and students regionally, nationally, and internationally, and frequently support ISBNPA activities such as conference judging and mentoring events.

My vision is to use my experience and enthusiasm to strengthen ISBNPA's support for ECRs globally, building mentoring networks, facilitating collaboration, and ensuring that every ECR feels valued and heard.

Narrative CV

As an early-career researcher in exercise oncology, digital health, and participatory research, I aim to strengthen ISBNPA's commitment to supporting and empowering early-career researchers (ECRs). Having benefited personally from ISBNPA's mentoring, networking, and professional development opportunities, I am passionate about giving back by amplifying ECR voices within the society and ensuring that their perspectives shape ISBNPA's strategic direction.

My priorities include:

- 1) Enhancing ECR representation and engagement across ISBNPA committees and SIGs.
- 2) Expanding peer support and mentoring initiatives, including cross-regional and interdisciplinary networks.
- 3) Using digital tools to create more accessible, inclusive spaces for participation and knowledge-sharing across regions and disciplines.
- 4) Promoting equity, inclusion, and participatory opportunities, especially for underrepresented researchers globally.

Drawing on my experience as Deputy Chair of the Cancer Prevention and Management (CPM) SIG and involvement in communications and podcast initiatives, I will continue to build spaces for collaboration, visibility, and belonging, helping ISBNPA remain a global leader in nurturing the next generation of behavioral nutrition and physical activity researchers.

Scientific Identifier

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Running for:

ECR representative



Name:

Kylie Wilson

Affiliation:

University of Arizona Cancer Center

Planned Key Contributions

My planned contributions to ISBNPA most align with the “Growing the Next Generation” pillar by supporting efforts to expand opportunities for Early Career Researchers (ECRs). I know that new and early stage investigators are a key part of ISBNPA’s identity, and that many members first join the society as students or ECRs. I want to continue building on ways to invite these individuals into the society in meaningful ways where their voices can be heard, their research elevated, and their impact strengthened to support long term career success.

I would be eager to contribute to initiatives such as a mentoring program for ECRs, similar to the Building the Future Leaders course for mid career researchers, and to explore additional ways to enhance ECR development and visibility within the organization in distinct ways from students and middle career researchers. I am particularly interested in helping create pathways for ECRs to gain experience in peer review, collaborative grant writing, and interdisciplinary and global networking, as I feel these are critical skills for

advancing careers and amplifying research impact. Through these efforts, I hope to support ISBNPA's mission to cultivate a connected, inclusive, and empowered next generation of researchers in behavioral nutrition and physical activity.

Narrative CV

I have been an active ISBNPA member since 2021, when I first joined as a local student representative during planning for the Phoenix conference. I currently serve as the Student Elected Representative (2024–2026) and Chair of the NESI Committee, where I help support professional development, mentoring, and networking for new and early career researchers (ECRs). In this role, I have supported NESI subcommittees in planning the annual NESI socials, conference workshops, and the NESI podcast, and have helped strengthen coordination across the subcommittees that lead many of NESI's initiatives. These experiences have deepened my appreciation for ISBNPA's strong sense of community, collaboration, and commitment to growing the next generation of researchers, especially given the large number of ECR members within the society.

I earned my PhD in Exercise and Nutritional Sciences at Arizona State University and am currently postdoctoral scholar at the University of Arizona Cancer Center (USA) where my research examines how environmental and social factors shape physical activity and health. My work integrates exercise physiology, environmental health, and implementation science to inform equitable, community-driven solutions. Since 2018, I have published 20 peer-reviewed articles and presented my work locally, nationally, and internationally. My research and service reflect a shared commitment with ISBNPA to advancing interdisciplinary science and supporting the success of emerging scholars, and I would welcome the opportunity to continue this work within the ISBNPA ECR community.

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Running for:

Member-at-large, Africa



Name:

Estelle Victoria (Vicki) Lambert

Affiliation:

Research Centre for Health through Physical Activity, Lifestyle and Sport (HPALS), Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town

Planned Key Contributions

It is exciting that ISBNPA has continued to evolve as a society, not only supporting impactful, but inclusive, sustainable, and future-focused research, to promote human and planetary well-being. Key to achieving this vision globally is the need to address health equity, environmental and social justice, particularly for persons and communities which face constrained choices and other inequities. Irrespective of the outcomes of the election, I will undertake to help ensure that ISBNPA continues to shine an equity lens on the work of our society, “levelling the playing fields”, so that those who often have the greatest need and least resources may also benefit from the translation of our findings.

I also believe that we often think of LMICs from a deficit perspective, instead of recognising the enormous potential and capacity of colleagues, post-graduates and practitioners from these countries and communities. We should be tapping in to the various innovative strategies pioneered by these groups, and partner to assist with much needed resources for potential scaling and dissemination. Noting the importance of planetary health as part of our vision, it will be critical to promote more virtual meetings and regional capacity development.

I hope to assist with attracting more African applicants for the Pioneers programme, and would be privileged and willing to serve as a mentor or to assist with the Building Future Leaders programme.

Finally, I believe that we should foster greater cooperation between groups/societies, networks and professional organisations with similar scopes of research disciplines/ end users/ implementation and advocacy (e.g. ISPAH or SBM or ISUH, etc).

Thank you for considering me for this important role.

Narrative CV

Professor Lambert is former Director of the Research Centre for Health through Physical Activity(PA), Lifestyle & Sport (HPALS),University of Cape Town, a SA National Research Foundation B1 rated scientist, and co-author on over 370 publications(H-index:95, Google Scholar). Her recent outputs have focused on PA, health and environment, the nexus between obesity and food security, community-based interventions and citizen science, with an equity lens. She is a Clarivate Highly-Cited Researcher(2020-2024)and was awarded the SA Medical Research Council Platinum Award for Lifetime Scientific Achievement(2024).She has been expert consultant to the WHO (Global Action Plan for PA, Guidelines Development Group for Global Recommendations for PA and Sedentary Behaviour).In 2019 she consulted on the Global Regulatory & Fiscal Capacity Building Programme Promoting Healthy Diets and PA. During COVID,she led 40 academics from 9 African countries in developing policy briefs promoting PA in the region.

She has held leadership roles in large multi-site studies; most recently,as in-country Co-PI on the NIHR-funded Global Diet & Activity Research Network.She has demonstrated engaged scholarship through the Western Cape on Wellness Health Promotion initiative, assisting with co-creation,training and evaluation of over 1200 community-based wellness champions.She applies citizen science as PI on the YEBO-SPAN project(Youth-Engaged Better Outcomes:Social networks, PA & Nutrition),resulting in engagement of high school youth as citizen scientists,and co-development with the provincial Department of Education to incorporate into curriculum.

She has a proven scientific track record, mentorship and commitment to Global South research and policy.

Scientific Identifier

Google Scholar <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=pjMzCQsAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>

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Researchgate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Estelle-Lambert-3?ev=hdr_xprf

Running for:

Member-at-large, Africa



Name:

Philippe Gradidge

Affiliation:

University of the Witwatersrand

Planned Key Contributions

As a South African academic with over 15 years of experience in physical activity epidemiology, I aim to strengthen ISBNPA's engagement across Africa by amplifying context-sensitive research and policy translation. I've contributed to ISBNPA's Strategic Plan 2025–2030 and received the Building Future Leaders Gold Award. My research focuses on cardiometabolic risk, sedentary behaviour, and physical activity patterns in underserved populations, especially African women. I plan to advance ISBNPA's LMIC agenda by mentoring emerging African scholars, promoting inclusive conference representation, and co-developing policy briefs that integrate participant voices. My involvement in national initiatives such as Healthy Active Kids South Africa (HAKSA), and current contributions to the Global Matrix 5.0 and the Global Alliance Framework for the Promotion of Physical Activity, reflect my commitment to bridging Global North–South perspectives in physical activity advocacy. I bring strategic experience from chairing

research committees and coordinating postgraduate supervision, and I'm committed to evidence-based advocacy and equity-driven capacity building.

Narrative CV

I am a Professor at the University of the Witwatersrand and Chair of Research and Postgraduate Studies in the School of Therapeutic Sciences. My research focuses on physical activity epidemiology, cardiometabolic health, and behavioural interventions in African populations. I've published extensively on sedentary behaviour, obesity, and metabolic syndrome, and been involved in multi-country collaborations including with the CNRS (France). I've presented at ISBNPA conferences since 2016 and contributed to its Strategic Plan. My policy work includes briefs for the African Physical Activity Network and contributions to Healthy Active Kids South Africa. I am currently involved in the Global Matrix 5.0 and the Global Alliance Framework for the Promotion of Physical Activity, focusing on indicator development, stakeholder engagement, and advocacy for context-sensitive physical activity promotion. I supervise doctoral and master's students across diverse topics and co-developed writing retreats to support early career researchers. I bring a collaborative, equity-driven ethos to ISBNPA, with a commitment to LMIC representation and bridging Global North–South knowledge exchange.

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Running for:

Member-at-large, Africa



Name:

Usman Sani Dankoly

Affiliation:

Glasgow Caledonian University

Planned Key Contributions

As a native African researcher, extremely well networked in African Academic circles, and active Early Career Researcher (Marie Curie Fellow), I will serve as a connector and future leader, ensuring ISBNPA reflects the realities of Africa and LMICs while advancing the Society's four priorities.

Climate Action. Support a hybrid-first, regional hub model (Africa, LAC, Asia) to cut emissions and improve access; embed a travel-footprint tool into registration and promote low-carbon options such as rail/coach/EV and SAF. Target: per-capita CO₂ ↓ 25% by 2026, on track for –50% by 2027.

Inclusive Culture (here I insist). I will work to increase uptake of membership and attendance by removing barriers. For example, I would like to establish an Access & Visa Taskforce to provide visa letters, rolling documentation, and micro-grants for watch-party hubs. Expand tiered fees and rotate Special Interest Group (SIG) leadership to include African and LMIC members. Targets: +30% LMIC abstracts, +25% LMIC attendance, ≥2 new SIG co-leads/year.

Growing the Next Generation. Launch an Africa-led mentorship cohort: 20 ECRs/year paired with EC mentors, focused on grant-writing and open-science workshops (AI, wearables, NLP). Targets: $\geq 40\%$ women, $\geq 60\%$ LMIC participation.

Research Impact. Translate outputs into briefs and plain-language summaries for ministries and NGOs, while embedding an Impact Box in IJBNPA submissions, especially across Africa and LMICs. Targets: 10 briefs/year; 50% of IJBNPA papers include an Impact Box.

I bring African experience, local networks, and future-facing ECR perspective. I will help ISBNPA grow African membership, highlight African-led science, and ensure inclusivity and planetary health become results.

Narrative CV

I come from where school fees decide futures. After we lost both parents, I was the eldest of five; I worked nights and studied days, winning the TotalEnergies International Scholarship (from the French multinational's Nigerian affiliate), the Federal Government of Nigeria Graduate Award, and a state scholarship that paid my tuition and kept my siblings in school. Later, I earned the Master Mind Scholarship of the Flemish Government - one of the most competitive global awards - which brought me to Belgium to specialise in cardiovascular and metabolic rehabilitation. These global fellowships shaped my leadership: remove barriers, build fair systems, measure what matters.

I trained first as a physiotherapist in Nigeria, then added an MSc Rehabilitation Science and Physiotherapy, MSc Public Health, and a degree in Artificial Intelligence, building an interdisciplinary base at the interface of behaviour, data and policy.

Today I am a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Fellow in LABDA, funded by the European Commission (Horizon Europe). My PhD develops a Universal Taxonomy of 24-hour Behaviour, integrating wearable-sensor signals, lived-experience diaries, and large language models. With an intersectional lens, I reduce WEIRD bias and co-develop the forthcoming LABDA open-source toolbox, so evidence is reproducible, inclusive, and usable.

I have supervised theses and mentored students; in industry, I contributed to development of cutting-edge digital health software for precision and personalised medicine. As a native African researcher with strong networks and an active ECR, I will help ISBNPA grow African membership, amplify African-led science, and embed inclusive, climate-responsible methods that strengthen equity and health.

Scientific Identifier

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Running for:

Member-at-large, Africa



Name:

Victor Ademola

Affiliation:

University of Lagos

Planned Key Contributions

As a scholar and practitioner in exercise physiology and physical activity promotion, I am committed to helping ISBNPA strengthen its visibility, inclusiveness, and translational impact, particularly across Africa and the Global South. My priorities include:

1. Expanding Global Representation: Supporting ISBNPA's outreach and membership growth in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) through mentorship, regional workshops, and collaborations with universities and ministries of health.
2. Advancing Practice Translation: Bridging research and implementation by developing culturally relevant toolkits and community-based interventions that promote physical activity and reduce sedentary behaviour.

3. Science Communication and Engagement: Leveraging digital platforms, webinars, and media integration to enhance ISBNPA's global presence and public understanding of behavioural nutrition and physical activity.
4. Capacity Building: Strengthening support for early-career researchers and students through structured mentorship and training opportunities that improve methodological and leadership skills.

Narrative CV

I am Dr. Victor Damilola Ademola, an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Lagos, Nigeria. I hold B.Sc.(Ed.), M.Sc.(Ed.), and Ph.D. degrees in Exercise Physiology. My teaching and research focus on physical activity promotion, sedentary behaviour reduction, wellness education, and sports performance.

Alongside academia, I am a media specialist and sports journalist, leading the multi-platform brand Ademola Victor TV, which reaches over one million followers across YouTube, Facebook, TikTok, and X. Through interviews, documentaries, match analysis, and explainer videos, I communicate evidence-based insights to the public and stakeholders, bridging research, policy, and practice.

I engage with international networks such as ISPAH and contribute to WHO's GAPPA aligned outreach. I bring an integrated profile of academic rigor and mass media communication to mobilize audiences, convene partners, and measure impact, aligning with ISBNPA's mission to advance behavioural nutrition and physical activity worldwide.

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Running for:

Member-at-large, Asia



Name:

Neha Rathi

Affiliation:

Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University, Gujarat, India

Planned Key Contributions

My planned key contributions to ISBNPA include the following:

1. Promote ISBNPA and its seed program – Pioneers Scholarship in institutions across India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh and other Asian countries
2. Include one session in the ISBNPA Annual Meeting for research conducted in LMICs as well as research funded by ISBNPA.
3. As Lancet has started – The Lancet Regional Health – Southeast Asia, suggest IJBNPA to start a separate sister journal for Asia and Africa. Alternatively, IJBNPA can have a special issue every year for showcasing research from Asia and Africa
4. To cut down the Pioneers Scholarship by at least 500 USD so that scholarship can be provided to more researchers from LMICs.
5. Universities hosting ISBNPA Annual Meetings can support some of the Pioneers Scholarship Awardees by providing accommodation in the student villages/university

residence for conference days at discounted price (This is how Pioneer Scholarship Awardees can reduce the accommodation costs as hotel accommodations are more expensive than university residence for students).

6. ISBNPA Fellows can be requested to host some researchers from LMICs.
7. ISBNPA Fellows can also be requested to support travel for LMICs researchers.
8. If we can fix membership fees of USD100 for four years for LMICs then ISBNPA can attract more researchers from LMICs. Conference registration fees and Society membership fees are mostly paid by universities in LMICs. These universities usually don't cover conference travel including accommodation and airfare.
9. To host an ISBNPA Annual Meeting in a South-East Asian country like India but for that we need to build a very strong presence of ISBNA in South-East Asia.

Narrative CV

I graduated with a doctoral degree from the Institute for Physical Activity and Nutrition, Deakin University, Australia in 2018. I am committed to creating a healthy planet and a knowledgeable society. I love good insights and enjoy challenging myself by unlocking new possibilities. Cross-cultural nutritional complexities are my forte - having worked across Australia and India, I am well equipped at bringing to the table an in-depth understanding of the social, cultural, educational, and environmental contexts that influence nutritional and health issues in the Global Platter. With a PhD in behavioral nutrition, I will bring expertise that closely aligns with the focus area of IJBNPA. During my PhD, I conducted the first qualitative study in India to capture the perceptions of four key stakeholder groups in the secondary education process i.e. adolescents, parents, teachers, and school principals regarding the current status of nutrition education and food policies in Indian schools. Research outcomes from this qualitative study have been published in three peer-reviewed international journals (i.e. *Appetite*, *Health Promotion International* & *Health Education*). Besides behavioral nutrition, I have also conducted qualitative research on physical activity and use of open gymnasiums in the local context. During my doctoral and postdoctoral research, I have gained rich experience in conducting in-depth face-to-face interviews and focus groups discussions (FGDs) as well as analysing qualitative data (Rathi et al. *Appetite*, 2016; Rathi et al. *Frontiers in Nutrition*, 2022, Rathi et al. *Appetite*, 2023, Rathi et al. *BMC Public Health* 2025). Both these interviews and FGDs endorse my knowledge and expertise in carrying out research in low and middle-income countries, with a special focus on adolescent nutrition. Overall, I have an impressive research track record

for a mid-career researcher that speaks to my ongoing contribution to my field. In total, I have 29 peer-reviewed publications with 18 published in journals (e.g. Appetite, BMC Public Health, Nutrition Journal, Frontiers in Nutrition), ranked top in the discipline (Q1 – SCImago Journal Ranking) of Public Health and Behavioral Nutrition. I am the first/corresponding author of 28 articles demonstrating my substantial contribution to each paper. The upward trajectory of my research reach is demonstrated by several invited guest lectures both in India and overseas, national and international conference presentations (e.g. ISBNPA Annual Meeting 2023 Uppsala Sweden, ISBNPA Annual Meeting 2024 Omaha, USA) and more than 950 citations (Google Scholar) since 2016. Furthermore, I serve as a peer-reviewer for high-quality journals including British Journal of Nutrition, Maternal and Child Nutrition, Appetite, BMC Public Health, and Public Health Nutrition. Additionally, I have also been successful in securing ISBNPA's Pioneer Grant three times in a row (2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025). Till date, my three research projects funded by the ISBNPA's Pioneer Grant (2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025) have been published in BMC Public Health, Frontiers in Nutrition, and Journal of Nutritional Science respectively. My research work has also been published in leading Indian dailies including The Times of India (<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/varanasi/parents-and-schools-must-promote-healthy-eating-among-kids/articleshow/121219587.cms>).

Recently, I have been elected as the Editorial Board member of the prestigious International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity. In May 2024, I was invited to deliver the One to Watch Talk on “From passion to profession... - A nutrition enthusiast's global research endeavours” at the ISBNPA Annual Meeting in Omaha, USA. Considering these contributions and my research experience, I am confident that I will be able to fulfil the responsibilities associated with the Member-at-large (Asia) position as part of the ISBNPA Executive Committee.

Scientific Identifier

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Running for:

Member-at-large, Oceania



Name:

Alissa Burnett

Affiliation:

Deakin University, Institute for Physical Activity and Nutrition, Victoria, Australia

Planned Key Contributions

I have been an active member of ISBNPA since 2017 and am currently co-chair of the Children and Families Special Interest Group (CAF SIG) (since 2022; committee member since 2019). I have also served as co-chair of the Mentoring Program (2023–2025), co-chair (2019–2020) and member (2017–2018) of the Network of Early Career Researchers and Students, and member of the Communications Committee (2018–2019). Through these roles, I have worked to strengthen collaboration within the CAF SIG (i.e. contributing to a collaborative systematic review within the CAF SIG), expanded mentoring pathways by growing the Mentoring Program to include more than 20 mentors and launching the ‘Meet the Mentors’ lunches, and fostered inclusive opportunities for early career researchers through initiatives such as the inaugural annual SIG awards for emerging researchers.

If elected to the Executive Committee, I will focus on ISBNPA’s strategic priorities:

Inclusive Culture: Expand SIG and mentoring initiatives to better engage LMIC researchers through virtual professional development, engage mentors from LMCI, and advocate for travel and participation support.

Growing the Next Generation: Enhance mentoring frameworks via year-round virtual engagement (webinars, mentoring circles, forums) and support collaboration incubators for emerging researchers to form cross-institutional teams.

Narrative CV

I am a Lecturer in Nutrition Sciences at the Institute for Physical Activity and Nutrition, Deakin University, Australia. My research focuses on children's eating behaviours, parental feeding practices, and the development of innovative, family-based interventions to improve children's dietary intake and food acceptance. I have a particular interest in translating behavioural science into practical tools for families to inform tailored feeding support.

I have published 25 peer-reviewed papers, delivered nine oral presentations at international conferences (6 at ISBNPA), and presented invited seminars at universities in Finland, Sweden, and Singapore. I also regularly review for leading journals in behavioural nutrition and child health. I have also organised 2 symposia at ISBNPA conferences, showcasing emerging research in child eating behaviours and parental feeding practices.

Beyond research, I contribute actively to ISBNPA and academic leadership through committee service. I support capacity-building for early-career researchers via the ISBNPA Mentoring Program and the Children and Families SIG, where I have contributed to international research projects. I have chaired multiple sessions at ISBNPA conferences and contributed to the NESI workshop on 2 occasions.

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Running for:

Member-at-large, Oceania



Name:

Hayley Christian

Affiliation:

The Kids Research Institute Australia, The University of Western Australia

Planned Key Contributions

If nominated as a member of the Executive Committee, I will commit to ISBNPA's vision, mission and strategic priorities. A key priority throughout my research career has been engaging with communities and partners across all research stages—from defining questions to translating findings into policy and practice. I am passionate about training and supporting the next generation of physical activity and nutrition behavioural researchers, ensuring they have equitable opportunities to develop and lead.

I will contribute my leadership and expertise in connecting evidence to action, helping and mentoring ISBNPA members to translate high-quality behavioural science into real-world impact. I am excited to support research and initiatives that explore the intersection between physical activity, natural environments, biodiversity and climate anxiety.

As the Oceania Representative, I will provide regional leadership to ensure ISBNPA's strategic priorities are enabled and supported. I will foster international and interdisciplinary collaborations, strengthen ISBNPA's membership, capacity building and mentorship in the region, and advance rigorous evaluation and policy-based research — enhancing ISBNPA's global impact, inclusivity and relevance.

Narrative CV

Professor Hayley Christian, AM leads a multidisciplinary team at The Kids Research Institute Australia and The University of Western Australia where she is Head of Child Physical Activity, Health & Development. Hayley is Western Australian Co-Director of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course (\$32M AUD) and inaugural Knowledge Transfer Portfolio Leader. She is an adjunct Professor at the University of Southern Denmark. Hayley leads her PLAYCE research program to improve children's health-related behaviours and well-being through multi-level interventions focused on the child, family, physical and policy environment.

Prof Christian's Play Active policy was adopted into the WHO Global Standards for Healthy Eating, Physical Activity, Sedentary Behaviour and Sleep in childcare. She also authored the first Australian 24-Hr Movement Guidelines for the Early Years, an American Heart Association Scientific Statement and has led world-first physical activity policy national trials in childcare and outside of school hours care.

Hayley has considerable experience in committee roles and previously contributed as SIG Chair in leading professional associations. She is currently Deputy Chair - Board of Directors - Western Australian Cardiovascular Research Alliance; Steering Committee member - Australian Child and Family Hubs Network; Healthway Research Committee member; and Executive Committee member - Cochrane Healthy Eating and Physical Activity.

Scientific Identifier

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www.linkedin.com/in/hayley-christian-am-a5339523/

Running for:

Member-at-large, Oceania



Name:

Paul Gardiner

Affiliation:

The University of Queensland

Planned Key Contributions

My values strongly align with ISBNPA's mission and strategic priorities. As Member-at-Large, Oceania, I would leverage my established networks across the region to advance ISBNPA's vision of stimulating and promoting innovative and impactful research in behavioral nutrition and physical activity to improve human and planetary health and well-being. I bring extensive experience in developing and implementing strategic plans and am eager to contribute to the Society's next strategic cycle.

I am particularly committed to addressing inequities that shape health outcomes and to advancing planetary health—recognising that climate change, sustainability, and wellbeing are deeply interconnected. My approach emphasises people-powered research, which places communities at the centre of inquiry and decision-making. This means not only engaging communities as partners but also ensuring our research questions, designs, and outcomes are inclusive and meaningful to diverse populations.

I aim to strengthen mechanisms within ISBNPA to acknowledge, celebrate, and support participation across all forms of diversity, rather than focusing on limited aspects. This

includes amplifying the voices of priority populations and being an ally for voices not in the room. By fostering culturally safe and inclusive research environments, we can better reflect the lived realities of the populations we serve. I aim to be collaborative, transparent, and equity-driven.

Narrative CV

I am Deputy Head of the School of Public Health at The University of Queensland. I am teaching and research academic with over 20 years of experience across a number of research areas and sectors. My multidisciplinary research promotes active ageing with a focus on helping people improve and maintain quality of life and examining behavioural approaches to dementia prevention.

I have been fortunate to be involved with ISBNPA since attending my first conference in 2011. As the founding Chair of the Ageing Special Interest Group (SIG), I established a global platform in 2015 to advance ageing-related behavioural research within ISBNPA. During my tenure as Co-Chair (2016–2018), I led initiatives that fostered interdisciplinary collaboration, supported early-career researchers, and advocated for a higher profile of ageing within ISBNPA. In 2025, I joined the Research Impact Committee.

My scholarly contributions span over 100 peer-reviewed publications, many presented at ISBNPA annual meetings. I have delivered workshops on intervention development and sedentary behaviour measurement (Edinburgh 2015, Cape Town 2016).

I am committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion, exemplified by my co-founding of the PHAA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion SIG and my leadership in mentoring programs. I bring experience in governance, having served as Vice President of Finance for the Public Health Association of Australia (2019–2023), and as a conference organiser and academic leader.

Scientific Identifier

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<https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=24398815900>

Running for:

Member-at-large, Oceania



Name:

Tom Stewart

Affiliation:

AUT University

Planned Key Contributions

As Oceania Representative on the Executive Committee, I will leverage my 11 years of ISBNPA membership to advance the Society's mission. Having directly benefited from the society via mentorship, collaboration, and the NESI network, I am committed to fostering similar opportunities for others. With my background in biostatistics and quantitative methodology, I will continue serving on the Scientific Programme Committee, encouraging high-quality and impactful research. I will champion Oceania's unique perspectives, emphasising an equity-driven lens by advocating for greater representation of researchers across Australasia and the Pacific.

Narrative CV

I am an Associate Professor in Physical Activity and Health at Auckland University of Technology. My research focuses on physical activity epidemiology, environmental determinants of health, and device-based measurement. I actively contribute to ISBNPA's Scientific Programme Committee and to IJBNPA as an Associate Editor (since 2022, Editorial Board since 2019). I have delivered webinars for the NESI network, and I was an

invited keynote speaker at the 2020 ISBNPA XChange conference, showcasing the role of data science in behavioural research. Beyond ISBNPA, I am a board member of the International Society for the Measurement of Physical Behaviour, where I co-chaired the 2024 ICAMPAM conference. I'm also a bicycle enthusiast: I design them, I build them, and more importantly, I ride and enjoy them!

Scientific Identifier

Scopus: <https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=55449866800>

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.co.nz/citations?user=UwrhbYAAAAAJ&hl=en>

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5915-3843>

Running for:

Member-at-large, Latin America and the Caribbean



Name:

Andrea Ramirez Varela

Affiliation:

Assistant Professor University of Texas Health Center at Houston

Planned Key Contributions

Continue supporting the expansion of network membership across Latin America and the Caribbean, enhancing capacity building in research on physical activity and nutrition, and contributing to the advancement of the society's mission.

Narrative CV

I define myself as physician-scientist working at the intersection of public health, physical activity epidemiology and policy research. I have focused my career on three main areas: (1) Life course studies among underserved populations in Latin America and other low and middle-income country settings, to study the prevalence, determinants and correlates of morbidity and mortality in children, childhood obesity and malnutrition, and physical activity and healthy lifestyle in children and adults; (2) Studies to establish, strengthen and sustain global surveillance systems of physical activity levels, research capacity, and physical activity policy, to contribute to effective and equitable global physical activity

promotion efforts; and, (3) Studies using a broad syndemic approach to understand the relation between physical activity promotion, noncommunicable disease prevention, and infectious disease crises (e.g., COVID-19 pandemic) and with this, find synergistic solutions to all.

Scientific Identifier

ORCID

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Running for:

Member-at-large, Latin America and the Caribbean



Name:

Nicolas Aguilar-Farias

Affiliation:

Universidad de La Frontera

Planned Key Contributions

My goal is to strengthen ISBNPA as a bridge between research, policy, and practice, focusing on underrepresented regions. From Chile, I have led efforts translating evidence into national policies and served on expert committees for key ministries.

As a committee member, I aim to:

1. Advance research equity: Promote two-way knowledge sharing, so developed countries learn from pragmatic, resource-efficient solutions in Latin America and beyond. Our experience with limited resources offers valuable lessons in real-world implementation.

2. Amplify diverse voices: Support emerging researchers from under-resourced regions, helping them join international networks so ISBNPA benefits from new perspectives and local innovations.

3. Expand networks: Extend ISBNPA's reach by connecting with regional groups and decision-makers. My advocacy experience will help build bridges for mutual collaboration and knowledge exchange.

I am committed to making ISBNPA a truly global organization that democratizes scientific opportunities and enhances public health worldwide.

Narrative CV

I am Assistant Professor at Universidad de La Frontera, Chile, leading the UFRO Activate Research Group. My background includes physiotherapy and a PhD from the University of Queensland, Australia.

International leadership: As national leader of Chile's Report Cards on Physical Activity (2016-present) and coordinator of the first Para Report Card, I contribute to global initiatives, including the SUNRISE study in Chile and networks such as SAPASEN, ISPAH, and Active Healthy Kids Global Alliance, bridging research communities across continents.

Policy advisory: Technical expert committees for Chilean Ministries (Sports, Health, Transport, Education) have utilized my evidence to shape national physical activity policy. Consultancy work for PAHO and UNICEF on child and adolescent health focuses on improving surveillance and evidence-based policy development.

Research impact: My research has been focused on measuring physical activity, sedentary behavior, and sleep in diverse populations, including children and older adults. In recent years, I have been focused on implementing context-specific interventions in school settings.

Capacity building: Through international collaborations, I have trained Latin American researchers and practitioners, strengthening regional capacity while promoting knowledge transfer that enriches global behavioral science.

My career demonstrates commitment to translating research into social impact in resource-limited contexts, supporting ISBNPA's mission to improve human and planetary health through innovative, equitable science.

Scientific Identifier

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ResearchGate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nicolas-Aguilar-Farias>

Running for:

Student representative



Name:

Danielle Gartner

Affiliation:

Tulane University Department of Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences

Planned Key Contributions

My experience serving on the Communication Subcommittee of the Network of Early Career and Students of ISBNPA (NESI) has provided valuable insight into members' interests and how to enhance their experiences at ISBNPA's annual conferences. Many students have expressed a desire for more networking opportunities with peers, noting that the cost of attending the NESI dinner can be a barrier. As ISBNPA's student representative, I hope to collaborate with local organizers to create multiple informal, low-cost opportunities for students to connect and explore the host city together.

Additionally, throughout my academic journey, I have been fortunate to receive mentorship from individuals whose guidance has shaped my research trajectory and professional growth. I recognize the critical role that accessible mentorship plays in supporting students' success in academia and research. As student representative, I aim to increase opportunities for students to regularly connect with senior scientists, with the goal of

fostering connections that are mutually beneficial. Students are often eager to contribute to ongoing research efforts, and senior scholars can, in turn, gain valuable support and fresh perspectives from students and early-career collaborators. By increasing networking and mentorship opportunities across individuals of varying career stages, I hope to strengthen collaboration and community within ISBNPA.

Narrative CV

Over the past nine years, my academic and professional experiences have transformed my initial interest in nutrition into a commitment to advancing policies and programs that promote equitable access to nutritious food. My passion for research began as an undergraduate research assistant, where I helped pilot a mobile health intervention to improve diet quality among children from low-income households in Philadelphia. Since then, I have pursued opportunities to identify and address drivers of food and nutrition insecurity across diverse communities in the US. My work in both urban and rural settings has deepened my understanding of food insecurity and strengthened my commitment to promoting equitable and sustainable food policy solutions. I am currently conducting my dissertation research, which is aimed at identifying factors influencing the implementation of the updated WIC food package in Louisiana. To date, my research has resulted in eight peer-reviewed publications, including three as first author. Beyond research, I collaborate globally to strengthen science communication and expand the reach of nutrition and physical activity research. For the past year, I have served on the Communication Subcommittee of the Network of Early Career and Students of ISBNPA (NESI) and was recently named its co-chair. In this role, I highlight research from early-career scholars and students worldwide to increase visibility, engagement, and collaboration within the ISBNPA community.

Scientific Identifier

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Running for:

Student representative



Name:

Jennifer Gale

Affiliation:

Auckland University of Technology

Planned Key Contributions

As the Student Representative, I will contribute meaningfully to ISBNPA's strategic priorities, particularly Inclusive Culture and Growing the Next Generation. I propose leading an ISBNPA-hosted focus group initiative, in collaboration with the Early Career Researcher Representative, to identify barriers to participation for students, early career individuals and those from underrepresented regions. This project will generate a report with actionable strategies to enhance inclusion and accessibility. More importantly, it will build connections and support future collaborations for those involved. I will leverage existing relationships with the Federation of Oceanic Nutrition Societies and Nutrition Societies of New Zealand and Australia, developed through service roles, to ensure representation from these regions. I will continue contributing to NESI (ISBNPA's early career and student network), supporting the development of webinars and targeted programming at ISBNPA conferences. As an active member of professional societies I serve, I will bring energy, reliability, and a collaborative mindset to ISBNPA governance. I am particularly interested in serving on the Membership or Scientific Program Committees, which align with my strengths and offer opportunities to amplify student voices across all aspects of ISBNPA's work, including conference programming and member engagement. As a researcher based in Aotearoa New Zealand, I offer a unique perspective; though small and often

underrepresented, Aotearoa has a rich history of innovation and impact in behavioural nutrition and physical activity. I aim to bring this legacy forward while advocating for stronger student and early career representation from all regions.

Narrative CV

I am a Dietitian and Lecturer in Physical Activity and Nutrition at Auckland University of Technology. I completed my PhD in May 2025, which explored the effects of interrupting sedentary time with acute bouts of activity, on postprandial metabolism, subsequent 24-hour movement patterns and barriers / facilitators to changing sedentary behaviour. My previous roles include a Freemasons NZ Postdoctoral Fellowship in Paediatrics and Child Health at the University of Otago and Research Fellow position with Te Hau Kori, Victoria University of Wellington. I currently serve as Co-chair of the Federation of Oceanic Nutrition Societies Early Career Taskforce, where I led the taskforces establishment. This role has enabled me to develop leadership skills and build connections across Oceania. I also serve as an Officer for NESI, contributing to early career programming such as the launch of the NESI Podcast. My PhD research received international media coverage (Gale et al., 2025 BMJ Open Sport & Exercise Medicine Altmetric score >1000), helping shape public discourse on sleep, sedentary behaviour and metabolic health. I am a co-investigator on a nationwide health delivery project which aims to improve service delivery for people and families living with diabetes. I have contributed to international policy efforts, including the provision of national data to the global update of adolescent physical activity participation, commissioned by the World Health Organization (in progress). I am also a co-investigator on a project focused on improving ageing-in-place services in a local community. These experiences reflect my commitment to translating research into impact and fostering equitable participation in global and local research communities.

Scientific Identifier

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Running for:

Student representative



Name:

Umar Hassan

Affiliation:

Arizona State University

Planned Key Contributions

I plan to contribute to discussions on environmental and contextual factors that influence physical activity among the next generation. Within my capacity, I will also support the commitment to inclusivity by promoting engagement from students and scholars in Africa and other underrepresented regions.

Narrative CV

Umar Hassan is a third-year doctoral student in the Population Health program at the College of Health Solutions at Arizona State University. His research focuses on the impact of the built environment on physical activity, with a particular emphasis on promoting the health and well-being of children, especially in school settings. Umar advocates for strategies and interventions that promote healthier lifestyles.

Scientific Identifier

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