

# International Society of Posture & Gait Research

## Message from the president



As my 2-year term as President ends Sept 30th, I realize this will be my last official message in the ISPGR Newsletter. So I just want to take a moment to say: **Thank you for giving me the honour to serve as the President of ISPGR.** I also want to sincerely thank all members of the ISPGR Board, its Officers, and committees that I have had the pleasure to work with so closely during this time. My job has been made easy by all of your enthusiasm, dedication, team-work and support.

I am very excited to announce that **Dr. Mark Hollands will become the next ISPGR President.** As our previous Vice-President and Treasurer, Dr. Hollands has a long history of commitment to ISPGR, and is dedicated to continuing the growth and impact of our Society for its members and the scientific field as a whole. I am also happy to announce that Dr. Vivian Weerdesteyn will become Vice-President, and will bring a wealth of experience to that role, as a prior board member, and recent host of the 2017 ISPGR World Congress. Drs. Nicoleta Bugnariu (Treasurer) and Kim Delbaere (Secretary) will remain in their current positions, and continue to build upon the important contributions they have already made to such critical roles over the past 2 years. It is my pleasure to welcome our new Board members beginning on Oct 1st: Drs. Sjoerd Bruijn, Sue Lord, Anat Mirelman, and Patrick Sparto. They join our continuing board: Drs. Anouk Lamontagne, Mirjam Pijnappels, Masahiro Shinya, and Geoff Wright. As part of this transition, we unfortunately have to say goodbye (for now) to those individuals that are completing their terms. A special thank you to Dr. Brad McFadyen (Past-President) and elected members: Drs. Michael Cinelli, Yuri Ivanenko and Sue Park for all your valuable contributions to the leadership of ISPGR.

I hope everyone is excited as I am about the upcoming ISPGR World Congress in Edinburgh next June 2019! How could you not be, with such an exciting lineup of keynote speakers now confirmed, and a truly spectacular location and venue for us to meet, exchange ideas and learn from one another? The call for abstracts and workshops is expected to open Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, so I hope everyone is planning on submitting their research and joining what we expect will be our largest World Congress to date!

Sincerely,  
Mark Carpenter  
President, ISPGR

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## Walking and Talking with... Professor Marjorie Woollacott

*In a career spanning three decades Prof. Woollacott has made others question the distinction between basic and clinical research. As an honorary member and former President of ISPGR, she shares with us her stories about the Society, recipes for translating research and the questions that follow life after research.*

**We have been fortunate to talk to many long-time ISPGR members for “Walking and Talking with...” and it always reminds us of the rich history of the Society. How long have you been associated with ISPGR and what are some of your earliest memories or collaborations?**

MW) My first invitation to the ISPGR congress was in 1986. Although unable to attend, I contributed a chapter to the volume created for the conference. This began a string of attendances, including the 1992 meeting in Portland which I co-organized with Fay Horak and coincided with my time as president of ISPGR. I later continued as ISPGR secretary until shortly before I retired. These first meetings were eye opening, as I realized the amazing amount of postural control and gait research happening throughout the major labs in Europe. ISPGR opened up wonderful collaborative opportunities for me in this area with colleagues like Professors Jean Massion, Christine Assaiante and Bernard Amblard, in Marseille.

**Did you always think research would be your career?**

MW) I always knew that research would be the path that I would pursue, even when starting college. I entered as a double major, in music and science, but

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*“...good scientists are at heart, good story tellers, and we are asking the data what story is there to be told...”*

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realized soon that, though I loved music (I am a lifelong oboe player), the call of science was too great. I received a NIH predoctoral fellowship which funded my studies at USC in cell and molecular biology. I moved north for my postdoctoral fellowship at U. Oregon, working on postural control mechanisms and learning in grasshoppers, using single cell neuronal recordings. A second postdoctoral fellowship followed with Lew Nashner in Portland, where I switched to human postural control. This became the foundation for my research on the development of postural control, and changes across the lifespan, at U. Oregon.

**One only has to look at the text *Motor Control* (co-written with Prof. Shumway-Cook) to see that translational research is a cornerstone of your work. The ability to feed insights from motor pathology/development back into principles of postural control is a challenging task for many, how did you approach it?**

MW) I have always collaborated with physical therapists and been surrounded by physical therapy students, so I think translational research found me! It is so exciting because an individual’s expertise always manages to provide a new vision. My first collaboration (with Anne Shumway-Cook) worked on the development of postural control in both typical children and in children with Down Syndrome. It made such a difference to be able to approach a question from the perspective of both a basic scientist and a clinician, deepening the relevance of the questions we were asking. This would be difficult to achieve in isolation.



It all came together when we were writing *Motor Control*. We would each write portions of a chapter and then discuss the drafts together. When I would write about research on postural control, Anne would always ask me why this would be relevant to the clinician. And when Anne had a clinical question she wanted addressed, we would then discuss what might be happening in the neuro-muscular systems to contribute to postural dysfunction and what therapies might contribute to bringing the systems back towards optimal function.

**North America is a hive of research activity, making it ripe for collaborations to form. However, this also makes competition for funding and faculty posts fierce. Have you felt this at different points in your career? By no means limited to North America though, do you see the research benefits outweighing the concerns for competition amongst future graduates?**

MW) I realize this is a big concern for many young PhDs and postdocs. I was very fortunate to be entering the field of neuroscience and postural control as it began to blossom. And I think that one of the keys to my own success was networking. This started in the '80s at the CNRS in Marseille, and led to continued European collaborations throughout my career. Competition for grant funding is an unfortunate but necessary reality ever present throughout my own career, and always an exercise in refinement and patience. When receiving critical grant reviews, I always started by reading them once. I would not revisit them for at least a week. My initial disappointment of the outcome would soon fade, which allowed me to provide better responses to the reviewer's concerns and honing of my ideas and interpretations.

**Mentoring students to become future researchers is a major responsibility in academia. We have a thriving student community in ISPGR and as they progress along the academic track, their mentorship may take many turns. What qualities/skills do you look for when someone comes searching for mentorship on your research team? What skills do you think are important to develop during the training process?**

MW) I think one key to mentorship is to introduce your trainees to all of the colleagues in your network. This includes taking them to as many meetings with you as possible! I also treat my trainees like colleagues, and focus on forming a collaborative process, where grant and manuscript work is a team effort. For me, a trainee needs to be "hungry" for research. I want them to enjoy doing research more than anything else, because as a scientist they will be doing this often 6 days a week, with writing in the evenings, so the fun aspect needs to be there. Key skills will often revolve around creating good research questions with alternate hypotheses, a curious mind to put into place the methodology to answer those questions, and then an enjoyment of data analysis. There is almost always an interesting story in your data, even if it does not come out the way you expect. I believe good scientists are at heart, good story tellers, and we are asking the data what story is there to be told.

**Your last sabbatical saw you undertake a Masters degree in Asian Studies, producing a book from the thesis on science and consciousness. Science is yet to provide us with all the right questions let alone all the right answers. Has this changed the way you view new problems or helped inform your ideas and scientific endeavors?**

MW) My sabbaticals provided many of the highlights of my career. They enabled me to connect and learn techniques from my colleagues that I could bring home. For example, I spent one sabbatical with Prof. Claes von Hofsten, in Sweden, when we were both still young professors, where I learned a lot about the work of James Gibson and Ecological Psychology. This greatly influenced my later research questions. My last sabbatical at Rochester University was part of a quest to bring together my experiences of being a student of meditation and a student of neuroscience. The resulting book, *Infinite Awareness: The Awakening of a Scientific Mind*, has led to a whole new post-career. I now interact with neuroscientists, physicists and psychologists researching meditation, near-death and end-of-life experiences, trying to uncover the nature of consciousness.

**Finally, we need to know which way you are leaning... is it going to be Posture or Gait?!**

MW) Ah, I don't know how to separate them! It seems that they are intricately intertwined.....

## Membership

Membership renewals are due for new and current ISPGR members

### It's that time again!

Membership in ISPGR is open to scientists, researchers, clinicians and students from around the world involved in the many research and practical aspects of Gait and Posture. Membership dues support the ISPGR's mission of creating a community of multidisciplinary posture and gait researchers and students.

### What are some of the benefits for members?

- Reduced rates for ISPGR activities
- Opportunities for jobs, positions, student scholarships and awards
- These and more are available on the website!

### Our two-year membership cycle for 2018-2020 starts in October!

Student/PostDoc: **\$75 USD**

Regular: **\$150 USD**

For more information, please visit the ISPGR [membership webpage](#).

## Society News and Views

### For those who missed the AGM...

The ISPGR Annual General Meeting for 2018 took place online in early June. As we move into a new two year cycle, a number of important details were presented including the Treasurer and Membership reports. In General Society News,

- The new board steering ISPGR was announced. At the helm are Profs. Mark Hollands (President) and Vivian Weerdesteyn (VP). After 9 years contributing to the board in a number of roles, Brad McFadyen will be rotating off the board. Congratulations were given new members elected to the board for the 2018-2022 period.

#### New Board for October 2018

President: Mark Hollands (Europe)

Vice-President: Vivian Weerdesteyn (Europe)

Treasurer: Nicoleta Bugnariu (Americas)

Secretary: Kim Delbaere (Asia-Pacific)

Past-President: Mark Carpenter (Americas)

#### Elected representatives (2016-2020)

Geoff Wright (Americas)

Anouk Lamontagne (Americas)

Mirjam Pijnappels (Europe)

Masahiro Shinya (Asia-Pacific)

#### Elected representatives (2018-2022)

Sue Lord (Asia-Pacific)

Patrick Sparto (Americas)

Sjoerd Bruijn (Europe)

Anat Mirelman (Asia-Pacific)

- Our 2019 conference co-chairs Kristen Hollands and Michael Cinelli announced that the keynote speakers for #ISPGR2019 had been confirmed (find out who on the next page!).
- New Initiatives were discussed with an emphasis on supporting ISPGR webinars over the off-congress years.

While this is not an exhaustive list of what was discussed, you can find the video link to the AGM and draft minutes in the member's portal at [www.ISPGR.org](http://www.ISPGR.org) for full details.



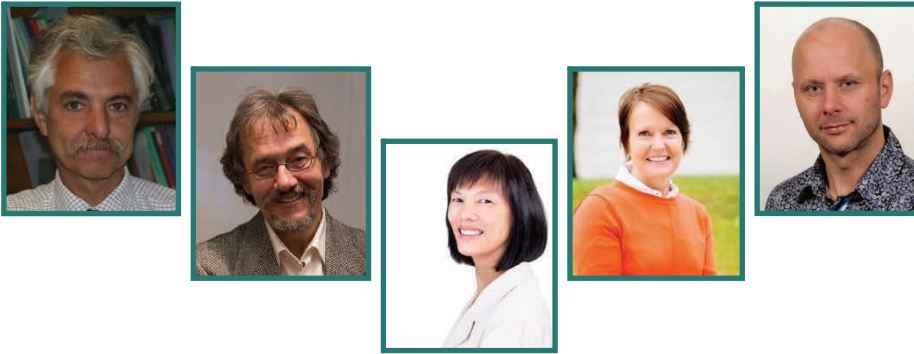
### Membership renewals 2018-2020

Have you checked your login for the ISPGR website recently?

From today you will be able to renew your ISPGR membership for the next two year cycle. Renewals are simple, just follow the prompts after you have logged in. For more information, check out the inset on the left or [head online!](#)

## 2019 Key Dates

## #ISPGR2019 Keynote Speakers Announced



With less than 280 days to go before we meet in Edinburgh and after much anticipation, we're excited to announce the keynote speakers for #ISPGR2019. From left to right we have;

- Prof. Adolfo Bronstein (Imperial College London) shedding light on the visual control of posture, balance and its dysfunction.
- Prof. Trevor Drew (Université de Montréal) delving in to the cortical mechanisms of locomotion, gait modifications and motor planning.
- Prof. Janice Eng (University of British Columbia) discussing the implementation of rehabilitation programs for upper limb function during stroke recovery.
- Prof. Lynn Rochester (Newcastle University) translating research on neurodegeneration and aging into a multidisciplinary approach.
- Prof. Herman Van der Kooij (University of Twente) perturbing our ideas on balance rehabilitation, robotics, and the wearable technology to achieve it.

With the close of symposia submissions, we have now opened the portal for oral, poster and workshop submissions. Also, don't forget about the range of awards available for ISPGR members in good standing, including the Promising Scientist (< 6years post-PhD), Emerging Scientist (<3years post-PhD), and Travel Stipends.

Check out the information on the right for key submission, registration and awards application dates. Alternatively, head over to the [Congress website](#), where you'll find the most up to date information first.



### Symposia Submissions:

August 6 – October 1, 2018

### Pre-Congress Workshop Submissions:

October 1 – December 5, 2018

### Poster and Oral Submissions:

October 1 – December 5, 2018

### Awards Applications Open:

October 1, 2018

### Late Breaking Abstracts:

April 1 – 15, 2019

### Travel Award Submission Deadline:

April 15, 2019

### Early Registration closes:

April 22, 2019

### Regular Registration closes:

June 3, 2019

### 2019 Congress Dates:

June 30 – July 4, 2019

## Highlights

[Check out the ISPGR Blog!](#)

Did you know you can now Search our ISPGR Blogs?! Just use the Search tool on the right of your screen [here](#) to catch up on everything you've missed!

Don't forget though, if you have a recent publication that you would like to profile on the blog, please contact [ISPGR](#) or the [editorial team](#) directly.

## Opportunities in 2018

### Conference, school and symposium announcements:

1. International Congress of Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders, Oct 5 (Hong Kong, China; [LINK](#))
2. 7th International Conference Neurology and Neuromuscular Diseases, Oct 22 (Madrid, Spain; [LINK](#))
3. Society for Neuroscience, Nov 3 (San Diego, USA; [LINK](#))
4. Australian and New Zealand Falls Prevention Society Conference, Nov 18 (Hobart, AUS; [LINK](#))
5. 1st International Motor Impairment Conference, Nov 26 (Sydney, AUS; [LINK](#))
6. 37th International Society of Biomechanics in Sports Conference, Jul 22, 2019 (Ohio, USA; [LINK](#))
7. 25th Congress of The European Society of Biomechanics, Jul 7, 2019 (Vienna, Austria; [LINK](#))
8. International Society of Biomechanics, July 31, 2019 (Calgary, Canada; [LINK](#))

### Calls for Manuscripts

1. Modularity and Compositionality in Motor Control ([J Neurophysiol](#))
2. Advances in Vestibular Research: A tribute to Bernard Cohen ([J Neurophysiol](#))

## Literature scan

### Fear of falling impacts physical activity in individuals with multiple sclerosis (MS)

Sustenance of physical activity is of significant concern for individuals with chronic disability like MS. This study raises the importance of assessing barriers related to self-efficacy to maintain physical activity in individuals with MS, with an aim to encourage physical activity levels in this population.

*Kalron A, Aloni R, Givon U, Menascu S. Fear of falling, not falls, impacts leisure-time physical activity in people with multiple sclerosis. Gait Posture. 2018 Sep; 65:33-38.*

### Pain with movement

In the wake of a rising opioid crisis in developed countries like the USA, there is an urgent need for alternative and comprehensive approaches to managing pain. This perspective piece proposes an integrative model to understand the inter-relationships between pain and movement and provides a conceptual framework to design effective rehabilitative strategies to manage pain.

*Butera KA, Fox EJ, George SZ. Toward a Transformed Understanding: From Pain and Movement to Pain With Movement. Phys Ther. 2016 Oct; 96(10):1503-1507.*



## Different Perspectives: BRAZIL Posture and Gait around the globe

*In our second instalment of Different Perspectives we cross the globe to the largest country in the Southern Hemisphere, Brazil. While the famed harbour of Rio De Janeiro and hidden wonders of the Amazon might be first to come to mind, for ISPGR and its members we are fortunate that it is called home by a number of distinguished researchers promoting work into Posture and Gait. **Guest contributor Dr. Renato Moraes shares with us the Brazilian research experience!***

Brazil is the fifth largest country, by size and population, in the world. In the field of posture and gait (P&G) research, a relatively small number of researchers are responsible for investigating significant problems in our society, such as aging and sedentarism. Although small in number, some of these research groups are innovators in P&G research and share important findings with the international community.

Our National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq), a Federal agency of the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communication, registers 108 research groups with an identified research focus on P&G. These research groups represent 19 states (i.e., 73% of all Brazilian states) of the Federation. Furthermore, P&G research has the potential to meet the demands for quality of life improvements for people with balance problems. The State of São Paulo (the largest economy in the country) includes 36% of these research groups.

Over the years, Brazilian researchers have been consistent participants at the ISPGR World Congress, giving visibility to Brazilian research in the P&G field. In the last three events, Brazilian researchers have presented 53 studies. Of these, 98% were from universities located in the State of São Paulo; and 83% were from six research laboratories located at three different universities.

Like in many places around the globe, the discrepancy in the total number of research groups and their global research presence can be framed by the current status of funding in Brazil. In recent years, Brazilian researchers from all fields have experienced budget cuts, and there has been a drastic downsizing of investments in science and technology, from both federal and State governments. For example, federal investments that totaled 8.2 billion Brazilian reals (~3.5 billion USD) in 2013 dropped to a total of 3.3 billion Brazilian reals (~1 billion USD) in 2017. Despite these financial difficulties, researchers persevere to maintain their research activities with the expected scientific quality and rigor. So while researchers from different Brazilian regions are still waiting for political and funding opportunities to increase their research activities, they hope to soon participate shoulder-to-shoulder in future ISPGR Congresses. As a matter of fact, we hope that Brazil soon will be the host for the ISPGR Congress!



*With plenty of natural distractions to contend with, Brazilian researchers still find time to innovate!*

## Conversation Starters: MoCap markers and the rise and fall (and rise?) of the Kinect

The Microsoft Kinect first garnered the attention of children and adults alike as a new form of controller-less gaming in 2010. Gone were the days of mashing buttons (a classic and underrated strategy), as a new era of arm flailing and body movement helped to vanquish monsters and hone essential competitive bowling skills against friends, all in the comfort of your own home. But the reach of the Kinect didn't stay in the hands of gamers for long. Many of our own ISPGR members saw the potential of the combined RGB camera, depth sensor, and powerful software to provide a simple and cost-effective tool to track human motion. One of its greatest assets? It put time back into experimenter hands, as the burden of markers were no more, providing great benefits for researchers working on elderly and clinical populations. By 2012, a new and improved Kinect was being utilised in research across the globe, taking motion capture out of the lab and into the home for use in rehabilitation. For researchers everywhere it looked as though a new era of motion capture was up and running. However, the large gaming market the Kinect was designed for had started to fall in 2015 and by October 2017 Microsoft had announced that it would be discontinued. #RIPKinect was used as a small tribute to a research workhorse.

Talking to 2015 Promising Young Scientist Winner Dr. Melvyn Roerdink sheds a little light on what the discontinuation means for ISPGR members invested in the Kinect for their research;



*The past, present and future of the Microsoft Kinect*

“Kinect has been a game changer, not to the degree it was hoped for in the gaming industry oddly enough, but in slower developing fields, including science, where entrepreneurial minds have found many relevant applications for it. While its discontinuation is sad, given the effort of researchers all over to validate its tracking capabilities, with recent news it seems there are still sunny times over the horizon for markerless technologies. These technologies will not only help in *understanding* human movement, but also the environment in which they take place.”

The Kinect as we know it may soon fade into history, but its legacy will be seen in the explosion of machine learning, computer vision and AI-based motion tracking methods that have followed ([read more here](#))...

...and soon in a [reincarnated form](#)!

**Are you devoted to the #markerlessmocap movement? Where do you think traditional #mocap systems fit? Share your thoughts with us on [Twitter @ISPGR](#).**

*A Brazilian Link!*

*The Kinect was initially named Project Natal, as an homage to the lead designers place of birth*



Looking for that next position?

*Check out our job notifications online and at the end of this newsletter!*

*For more information, just get in touch [ispgr@ispgr.org](mailto:ispgr@ispgr.org)*

## Going through the (loco)motions: Open science and public data

In an age where fake news is King, science communication has become a crucial skill in bridging the gap between fact, fiction, and the hyperbole that sits between. Open access publishing has broadened the reach of our findings to new audiences and with it a responsibility of researchers to ensure work is published in a clear and transparent form. Journals are updating and adopting new guidelines that focus on transparency and provide researchers with the tools to achieve this. One of these tools is the sharing of data sets. Not only does this provide other researchers with the capacity to cross-reference findings and reproduce analyses, but also gives quick access to generalized data that can be used for anything from teaching purposes to machine learning.



*While there are plenty of added steps to making science transparent, is it becoming a necessity in the production of research?*

To show how easy it is, here's a quick list of available data sets we found online for posture and gait.

[HuGaDB: Human Gait Database for Activity Recognition from Wearable Inertial Sensor Networks](#)

[Full body mobile brain-body imaging data during unconstrained locomotion on stairs, ramps, and level ground](#)

[An elaborate data set on human gait and the effect of mechanical perturbations](#)

[A public data set of human balance evaluations](#)

[A public dataset of overground and treadmill walking kinematics and kinetics in healthy individuals](#)

[A data set with kinematic and ground reaction forces of human balance](#)

[A public dataset of running biomechanics and the effects of running speed on lower extremity kinematics and kinetics](#)

Can't find what you are looking for? Google just announced a searchable database of data sets [here!](#)

### **At ISPGR we want to know...**

*Do you publicly share your data?*

*What are the barriers that stop you from data sharing?*

*Have any data sets that our members would love? Let us know where to find them using @ISPGR!*

## Meet the Team! Communications Committee



Having recently expanded our membership, we don't just support your Social Media cravings! The ISPGR Communications Committee is divided into four streams that cover the way we deliver new content to you under the ISPGR banner ([see here](#)). Spearheaded by Kim Delbaere and Masahiro Shinya, we are always striving to know more about our members, and considering the path of least resistance, decided to start with our own team first!

### **Kim Delbaere**



**I am...** a principal research scientist at Neuroscience Research Australia ISPGR since 2003, Secretary and Communications Committee Chair

#### **Why ISPGR?**

I am a physiotherapist working in neuroscience and my research crosses posture and gait on many levels in the area of ageing. The basic and experimental research often inspires my more applied solutions to advance healthy ageing.

#### **I help at ISPGR because...**

Societies are crucial for graduate and early career scientists to find their way in the scientific world and establish their careers through networking. I am proud that ISPGR has always been very inclusive of young scientists in all of its components.

### **Masahiro Shinya**



**I am...** an associate professor at Hiroshima University, Japan ISPGR since 2015, Board Member and Communications Committee Co-chair

#### **Why ISPGR?**

I've been a big fan of the Yes-No debates since 2009 in Bologna. The conversations at Congresses are diverse, relevant and always stimulating and members aren't competitive about sharing!

#### **I help at ISPGR because...**

I love the people we have in the Society and I want to show more the great work we do, especially in our Japanese and East Asian communities

### **Kim van Schooten**



**I am...** a post-doctoral researcher at Neuroscience Research Australia ISPGR since 2012

#### **Why ISPGR?**

The research presented at ISPGR is right up my alley and I always leave the meetings filled with new ideas. The Congress also provides the opportunity to discuss my own work, which has been very valuable. With such a strong and social community, ISPGR truly facilitates collaborations and the sharing of knowledge.

#### **I help at ISPGR because...**

Being active in the ISPGR Communications Committee enhances my ties with the community and allows me to hone and use my online skills effectively. To date, we've grown our social media presence and started a blog and journal club, and I look forward to seeing where the future takes us.



**Sjoerd Bruijn**



**I am...** a post-doctoral researcher at VU Amsterdam, Netherlands  
ISPGR since 2011, Board Member

**Why ISPGR?**

It has the perfect mix of fundamental and clinical science, with a lot of interesting people and ideas.

**I help at ISPGR because...**

I've gotten so much out of ISPGR these past years, that at some point, I felt it was only right to give something back. The meetings are always amazing, and now, with the off year activities, I really feel something has been added. It feels good to contribute one's fair share in such a society.

**Carolina R.A. Silveira**



**I am...** a research coordinator (clinical trials) at the Parkwood Institute, Canada  
ISPGR since 2012

**Why ISPGR?**

The feedback. It is remarkable how much constructive feedback we receive at ISPGR Congresses, and I always come back with ideas and suggestions to improve my work.

**I help at ISPGR because...**

The society truly appreciates and invests in its members, so I wanted to give back. Also, my work on the Communications Committee has given me new skills that are valuable to my academic activities.

**Sue Peters**



**I am...** a research associate at University of British Columbia, Canada  
ISPGR since 2014

**Why ISPGR?**

Ever since I attended Congress in Vancouver, I've been hooked on ISPGR! I found like-minded people passionate about gait and posture and applying it to clinical populations.

**I help at ISPGR because...**

ISPGR is an international group and I like to connect with people across the world who share my passion.

**Chitra L.K. Balasubramian**



**I am...** an Associate Professor at University of North Florida  
ISPGR since 2006

**Why ISPGR?**

An international group of accomplished researchers and clinicians focused towards understanding gait and posture issues....how can this get any better? I love the relaxed and casual (yet stimulating) atmosphere of the Society. ISPGR Congresses are my favorite since they always seem to strike that balance between adventure and science!

**I help at ISPGR because...**

Cannot pass another opportunity to learn from the exceptional members of this Society. Thank you!



***Daina Sturnieks***



***I am...*** a research officer at Neuroscience Research Australia  
ISPGR since 2001

**Why ISPGR?**

The Congress and other society activities are fantastic to keep in touch with what is going on in balance and gait research. Presenting to and meeting up with other members is invaluable for getting feedback on your work and brainstorming new ideas for future work.

***I help at ISPGR because...***

Who wouldn't want to help – a great bunch of people doing great things to help promote and progress the work that we love.

***Ruopeng (Robin) Sun***



***I am...*** a post-doctoral researcher at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA  
ISPGR since 2015

**Why ISPGR?**

ISPGR covers the cutting edge multidisciplinary mobility research from both the clinical and engineering perspective. The Congress is the right size, with comprehensive coverage on various aspects of posture and gait research.

***I help at ISPGR because...***

ISPGR helps me to connect with the global research community. I believe the ISPGR social media platform can enhance fast knowledge sharing and advance our posture and gait research community.

***Pieter Meyns***



***I am...*** an assistant professor at Hasselt University, Belgium  
ISPGR since 2009

**Why ISPGR?**

Being a multidisciplinary Society, ISPGR has helped me in my own quest to combine fundamental research on the neural control of gait and balance with clinical research on the rehabilitation of gait and balance in patient populations such as cerebral palsy.

***I help at ISPGR because...***

I wanted to give something back to the society that has provided me with so much; new and exciting knowledge, new collaborations, feedback from experts in the field, etc.

***Jasmine Menant***



***I am...*** a senior post-doctoral fellow at Neuroscience Research Australia  
ISPGR since 2007

**Why ISPGR?**

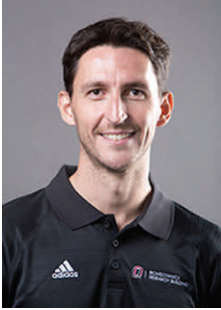
It is relevant to all aspects of my research, from mechanistic studies to applied trials, from understanding balance-related sensory systems through to balance and gait disorders and falls, from healthy to clinical populations.

***I help at ISPGR because...***

I have met many colleagues through ISPGR who have helped me or welcomed me into their labs. I want to give back to ensure ISPGR keeps doing good science and providing learning opportunities to its members.



**Vivien Marmelat**



**I am...** an assistant professor at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, USA  
ISPGR since 2014

**Why ISPGR?**

Simple: it is currently THE BEST society gathering multi-disciplinary scientists studying both basic and clinical aspects of posture and gait! And it is an vibrant and very active society, e.g., Tweets, Blogs, Journal Club, etc...

**I help at ISPGR because...**

ISPGR members are amazing, from graduate students to well-established researchers, there is a real sense of community in this society, as evidenced during the World Congresses! I have learn so much from the community, and I will do everything I can to give back and help the society.

**Christopher McCrum**



**I am...** a PhD candidate at Maastricht University, The Netherlands  
ISPGR since 2016

**Why ISPGR?**

The ISPGR provides many avenues for interaction with other scientists, all of whom are interested in the same topics. There is also a great mix and interaction of fundamental and clinical research(ers).

**I help at ISPGR because...**

ISPGR has provided me with new knowledge, new experiences and widened my horizons. I am pleased to be able to help the ISPGR continue to provide this for others.

**Katie Mitchell**



**I am...** a PhD candidate at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON, Canada  
ISPGR since 2016

**Why ISPGR?**

It's fascinating to gain new perspectives and network with gait and posture researchers from all parts of the world.

**I help at ISPGR because...**

My advisor is very active with ISPGR and motivated my decision to contribute to this great society as well!

**Alexander Stamenkovic**



**I am...** a PhD graduand at University of Wollongong, Australia  
ISPGR since 2015, Strategic Planning Committee student member

**Why ISPGR?**

Not too small, not too big, it's just right! The Congress has the perfect mix of basic and clinical research to help me understand how my own work fits into the scheme of things!

**I help at ISPGR because...**

ISPGR has helped me! I've learned new skills (Sensory stimulation workshop in 2016) and have gotten great insights into how posture and gait research works across the globe.



## Get in touch with ISPGR



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contact [Kim Delbaere](#) or [Alexander  
Stamenkovic](#)

## From the ISPGR Job Board...

### PhD

4 x Master/ PhD in custom foot orthotics + RA in Biomechanics

Université de Montréal, Canada ([LINK](#))

Computer Simulation of Neuromuscular Control of Legged Locomotion

University of Tübingen, Germany ([LINK](#))

3 x PhD, 1 x Post-doc—Sensorimotor Impairment and Rehabilitation

Catholic University of America / Johns Hopkins, USA ([LINK](#))

### Post-doc

Neurorehabilitation and Movement Neuroscience

Penn State University, USA ([LINK](#))

Musculoskeletal Health in CP

Liverpool John Moores University, UK ([LINK](#))

Neural Systems & Brain Signal Processing Laboratory

Myant Inc. / University of Toronto, Canada ([LINK](#))

Lower Limb Prosthesis Control

University of North Carolina, USA ([LINK](#))

### Academic

Open rank + Assistant Prof. tenure track – Motor Control, Biomech., Neurophys.

University of Oregon, USA ([LINK](#))

Assistant Prof. tenure track—Musculoskeletal Anatomy

Brock University, Canada ([LINK](#))

Assistant Prof. tenure track—Neuromechanics

McMaster University, Canada ([LINK](#))

## Contributors

**Editors:** Alexander Stamenkovic ([@anatomyfiend](#)), Kim Delbaere ([@delbaere\\_kim](#))

**Walking and Talking...** Carolina Silveira ([@c2silvei](#)), Alexander Stamenkovic

**Opportunities:** Daina Sturnieks ([@DrSturnieks](#))

**Literature Scan:** Chitra Balasubramian

**Different Perspectives:** Renato Moraes ([@rmoraes\\_usp](#)), Carolina Silveira, Alexander Stamenkovic

**Conversation Starters:** Masahiro Shinya, Alexander Stamenkovic

**Open Science:** Sjoerd Bruijn ([@sjoerdmdb](#)), Alexander Stamenkovic



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