

International Society of Plant Pathology (ISPP) Councillors

ISPP Councillors play an important role in the ISPP: they are the representatives of ISPP Associated Societies, national plant pathology nominating bodies (in countries where a Plant Pathology or Plant Protection Association does not exist) or the ISPP, who represent those bodies in the ISPP General Assembly and ISPP Council.

ISPP Councillors are expected to fulfill the following important roles:

- To represent their Society on ISPP Council, attend the ISPP Council meeting at the International Congress of Plant Pathology, and participate actively in Council ballots and deliberations.
- To familiarize themselves with the ISPP Statutes and Rules and the functions and activities of the ISPP, so as to be able to serve on the ISPP Council and advise on ISPP matters for the Society they represent. http://www.isppweb.org/about_objectives_statutes.asp
- To understand and support the financial requirements of membership of their society in ISPP based on member number, development status and agreement with ISPP.
- To vote on the following ballots: (i) Election of the ISPP Executive which is reappointed every five years; (ii) selection of the host society and the venue of the International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP) (held every five years); (iii) Motions to change or amend the ISPP Statutes and Rules; (iv) Motions made at ISPP Council Meetings.
- To champion and publicize the ISPP and ICPP activities to the members of their Society and Sibling societies, to help raise awareness of their Society with ISPP, and to encourage their Society to be involved in ISPP Subject Matter Committees and to nominate members for representation on the ISPP Executive.

If ISPP Councillors fully participate in these functions, they will provide to the national Society they represent a strong and active representation in the ISPP. Ideally, Councillors should also be in a position to attend the ICPP during their term. ISPP Councillors should also read the ISPP newsletter (published monthly) as this can help them keep abreast of ISPP matters.

Unfortunately, many Councilors neglect to vote during elections organized by the ISPP, and thus their Society's representation is diminished.

ISPP Councillors –Selection and appointment.

The selection and appointment of ISPP Councillors is up to an individual society but is often made by the Executive/Management committee of a Society and endorsed by the wider membership.

Given the fact that ISPP Congresses are held every five years, it is important that ISPP Councillors acquire experience and maintain involvement over a long time frame – perhaps 10 years or longer. This allows/ensures that ISPP Councillors retain experience of the operations of ISPP and is, in fact, an advantage for ISPP and the Society the councillor represents. In cases where an ISPP Councillor is unable or fails to take part in ISPP ballots or other Society representative tasks, then it is appropriate that the Society or ISPP review their membership of Council.

The ISPP Executive recommends that Societies consider appointing senior representatives who can remain as members of ISPP Council for at least 10 years, This allows the Councillor to become familiar with ISPP activities and also participate in two to three Congresses. Ideally when a Society has more than one Councillor it may be appropriate to have balanced representation of men and women representatives of the society and/or balanced representation across geographic regions.

It is also important that Councillor members should be individuals who have positions and support that will enable them to attend the International Congresses.

For example in 2017, the Australasian Plant Pathology Society (APPS) had two councillors who had served since 2008, and by 2018 will have attended three congresses - Prior to their election, the previous APPS councillors served for more than 15 years. The APPS is represented by one councillor from New Zealand and one from Australia and the society tries to have one male and one female representing them. As ISPP

Councillors they also participate in the APPS Council Meeting held every two years at the APPS biennial conference.

Voting for ISPP Executive and Congress is by secret ballot. In participating in ballots it is important that councillors give fair consideration to the documentation and claims of all candidates for either election to the ISPP Executive, or selection as ICPP host society and congress venue. Geographical and gender balance are also important in relation to the ISPP Executive candidates. The votes of ISPP Councillors should not be bartered by their society and should not be dictated by their society; however, Councillors may wish to seek advice from their Society and or the ISPP Executive.

ISPP Council member information for ISPP.

Updating the ISPP data base with ISPP Councillor (and associated society Management Committee/Executive) details is the responsibility of member Societies. The Councillors or Societies can advise changes by emailing the ISPP Business Manager, Peter Williamson. ISPP also announces upcoming ballots in the ISPP Newsletter.

ISPP Councillors

ISPP Rule 5 covers Councillors:

The Council shall consist of members appointed by Member Societies and by Nominating Bodies. Member Societies and Nominating Bodies with a membership of 10 to 100 plant pathologists may appoint one member of the Council (Councillor); those with 101 to 500 plant pathologists may appoint two Councillors. For every 1-500 plant pathologists above the first 500, one additional Councillor may be appointed. Member Societies or Nominating Bodies representing fewer than 10 plant pathologists may, with the approval of the Council, join with other Member Societies or Nominating Bodies to appoint one Councillor if their combined memberships are 10 to 100, and two Councillors if their combined memberships exceed 100. Individual members shall be represented on the Council by not more than five Councillors appointed in ways approved by the Council. Nine months before a Congress, Member Societies and Nominating Bodies will be asked to submit to the Council the name(s) of their appointee(s) for the next Council. Present or past members of the Council may be recommended for reappointment. The term of office of Councillors and Officers shall be from the end of one Congress to the end of the next. (See below)

The officers of the ISPP shall also be the ISPP members of the Council, and shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Terms of Appointment

Regarding the clause:

Nine months before a Congress, Member Societies and Nominating Bodies will be asked to submit to the Council the name(s) of their appointee(s) for the next Council

The ISPP Executive has interpreted this clause broadly, taking it that those who vote in the ballot for Executive and the next ICPP venue, and who are named as Councillors on the current list of ISPP Councillors, to be the Councillors for a particular Society. ISPP will assume that any individual Councillor continues to represent their Society until the individual or the Society advises ISPP that they are no longer an ISPP Councillor. ISPP will sometimes contact a Society when there is no ISPP Councillor listings for a Society on the ISPP website, or when the nominated people on the Society listing have email addresses that bounce.