



Report on ISPP 2013-2018 and proposed work plan for 2018-2023

This report is prepared for the information of ISPP Members. A more detailed report has been provided to the ISPP Council and to brief the incoming ISPP Executive (2018-2023).

Position	2013-2018	2018-2023
President	Greg Johnson	Jan Leach
Secretary General	Brenda Wingfield	Brenda Wingfield
Immediate Past President	Lodovica Gullino	Greg Johnson
Treasurer	Zamir Punja	Zamir Punja
Vice President (Congress)	Thomas Evans	Nathalie Poussereau
Vice President (SMCs)	Serge Savary	Khaled Makkouk
Editor in Chief Food Security	Richard Strange	Serge Savary
Newsletter Editor	Brian Deverall/Daniel Hüberli	Daniel Hüberli
ISPP Task-Force	Lise Korsten (Food Security)	Lodovica Gullino (Priorities 2050)

Progress in key activities between 2013 and 2018, and the Work Plan proposed for 2018 to 2023 are described under the following headings:

1. International Congress on Plant Pathology and ISPP 50 Years;
2. Associated Societies / Council members' involvement in ISPP, as well as other initiatives including the World Directory of Plant Pathologists;
3. ISPP Subject Matter Committees (SMCs) and Task Forces;
4. ISPP Newsletter, the Journal and Books;
5. Jakob Eriksson Prize for Plant Pathology, the Fran E Fisher Award and Fellows of ISPP;
6. Administration and Executive including financial report and forward budget.
7. Deaths 2013-2018

During the closing ceremony of ICPP2013, the ISPP President proposed the theme 'Plant health is earth's wealth' for his presidency. This was to recognise that while effective plant disease management has made considerable progress since the founding of ISPP in 1968, plant pathogens don't just limit global food security and the profitability, marketability and trade in agricultural commodities. They also impact on (i) land-care and environment sustainability, (ii) productivity and enjoyment of forests, fibre, recreational horticulture, and biodiversity (via invasive/emerging pathogens), and (iii) human and animal health. And, phytopathology is a central focus for discovery and development in biotechnology and plant-microbial molecular biology.

It is within this context that during 2013-2018 ISPP reviewed the role and function of the ISPP Taskforce on Global Food Security and options for ISPP to strengthen focus on other key challenges for plant pathology.

1. ISPP International Congress on Plant Pathology (ICPP) and ISPP 50 Years



ICPP2013 Beijing. The 10th ICPP organised by the Chinese Society of Plant Pathology was held in Beijing, China from the 25-30 August 2013 under the theme Bio-security, Food Safety and Plant Pathology: The Role of Plant Pathology in a Globalised Economy. The event attracted 1779 delegates representing 72 countries, plus more than 100 accompanying persons. There were 2 plenary sessions, 5 keynote sessions, 66 concurrent sessions and 9 evening sessions. 1591 abstracts were received, including 329 from invited lectures at plenary, keynote and concurrent sessions. 196 out of 1262 offered papers were selected as short talks at concurrent sessions. The ISPP received \$30,000.00 profit from the Congress plus repayment of the advance from ISPP to ICPP2013.

ICPP2018, Boston. The General Assembly of the ISPP and the 11th ICPP, organised by the American Phytopathological Society (APS), is being convened in Boston Massachusetts, USA, from 28 July to 3 August 2018. The theme of the 11th Congress and 50th anniversary of ISPP is Plant Health in the Global Economy, thus underlining the role of plant pathology in food, fibre, forests and the environment as well as trade, as well as emphasising the effort made by ISPP in the field of food security. It is anticipated that more than 2500 delegates will attend the event.



In celebrating the first 50 years of ISPP, we acknowledge the foresight and efforts of the founding societies, and the individuals who maintained the momentum up to today. The ICPP2018 Committee and APS have organised a splendid program of technical sessions and social events for the Congress. The opening plenary is titled "Plant Health is the Earth's Wealth", and there is also a concurrent session on the History of plant pathology which will include a paper on the history of ISPP, and a special session devoted to the proposed United Nations International Year of Plant Health in 2020.

ICPP2023 Lyon. Four ISPP-associated societies bid to host ICPP2023, the 12th Congress of ISPP. After a two-stage selection process, responsibility for organising the 12th ICPP was conferred upon the French Phytopathological Society (SFP). ICPP2023 will be convened in Lyon, France from 20 - 25 August 2023 under the theme One health for all plants, crops and trees.

(i) Work Plan 2018-2023 - Recommendation 1 – ICPP hosting:

The ISPP Executive should continue to liaise with ICPP organising committees to stream line planning procedures and strengthen international involvement in planning the scientific program so as to optimise procedures and opportunities for more member societies to host future Congresses.

(ii) Work Plan 2018-2023 - Recommendation 2 – ICPP Frequency

Commencing after 2028, the ISPP should consider moving to a four-yearly cycle for ICPP. This would complement frequencies of the International Plant Protection and Mycological Congresses.

2. Associated Societies, ISPP Council and the ISPP World Directory of Plant Pathologists

Membership, meetings and liaison. Sixty national and regional societies for Plant Pathology or Plant Protection are affiliated with ISPP with c. 21 societies paying membership dues in 2016-2017 or 2017-2018 in addition to individual members. The ISPP Council consists of c. 110 Councillors representing associated societies and ISPP, with c. 60 Councillors active in ISPP Council ballots and

meetings. A count of societies filing reports in any of the last three congresses indicates that these members together represent more than 26,000 plant pathologists.

The ISPP Newsletter provides monthly summaries on topical issues in plant pathology and is emailed to c. 2600 individuals and societies with individual issues recording up to c. 1500 views. The ISPP list server also enables communication with the plant pathology community and ISPP Council. The Newsletter also publicises plant pathology conferences and workshops, and includes reports on workshops and conferences. ISPP also liaises with national and regional societies and subject matter specialist groups to avoid conflict and overlap between meetings.

ISPP Executive members attended several meetings of associated societies in 2013-2018 with costs of their participation generally covered from other sources– including the 100 year anniversary meeting of the Phytopathology Society of Japan (PSJ) in 2015 (ISPP President), the 125 Anniversary meeting of the Netherlands Society for Plant Pathology (KNPV) (ISPP President), and national and regional meetings in Africa, Asia, Australasia, the Mediterranean and the Americas. The ISPP President used his participation in various meetings in 2013-2018 (Australasia 2013, 2015, 2017), Japan (2016), Jordan (2014), the Netherlands (2016), Pakistan (2014), South Korea (2017), Thailand (2014), and USA (2014, 2015, 2016) to promote the theme "Plant Health is Earth's Wealth".

Reports on activities 2013-2018 as received from ISPP Associated Societies and Subject Matter Committees will be tabled at the ISPP Council meeting in Boston and made available through the ISPP website.

Membership fees. During 2013-2018 the ISPP streamlined membership fee payment calculation and payment procedures for Associated Societies, offering the option of a 10% discount for membership fees paid in three or more year tranches. Pleasingly, several Societies also paid back dues and in 2017-2018 there were c. 21 financial member Societies out of c. 60 Associated Societies. In 2018-2023, ISPP will continue to encourage financial membership by additional societies. In addition, there are in excess of 500 individual members of ISPP and eight living Fellows.

(iii) **Work Plan 2018-2023 - Recommendation 3. ISPP Individual Members.**

The ISPP should introduce a life-membership of ISPP option for individual members – perhaps 11-12 times the cost of annual membership (\$16.00) say \$180.00. This would encourage more people to join on a one-off basis and thus grow the number of individual members – it is probable that many individual members currently retain membership for less than 10 years.

ISPP Council. The ISPP Council met at ICPP2013 with several ISPP SMC representatives also attending – in total, 66 attendees. For ICPP2018, the Agenda of the Council meeting was rearranged to reflect the alignment with the key activities of ISPP as has this report. ISPP Councillors participated in the ballots for selection of the host society and venue for ICPP2023 (with 59 Councillor' votes received) and to elect the ISPP Executive 2018-2023 (with 32 Councillor' votes received). Voting for the host society of ICPP2023 was in two rounds in line with ISPP Rules of Procedure. A significant concern is the failure of many Councillors to vote in ISPP ballots.

During 2017, guidelines on the role of ISPP Councillors were prepared and Member Societies and Nominating Bodies were reminded of the need to review and to submit to the Council the name(s) of their appointee(s) for the ISPP Council 2018-2023. The Agenda for the ISPP Council meeting at ICPP2018 in Boston, USA on Tuesday 31 July 2018 can be [found here](#).

(iv) **Work Plan 2018-2023 - Recommendation 4. ISPP Council Membership**

The ISPP Executive should consider additional categories eligible to vote in Council – e.g. ISPP Fellows (18); ISPP Past Presidents (3-4); Editor in Chief ISPP journal; and ISPP Newsletter editor. People who serve in these roles have a deep knowledge and broad experience in the objectives of ISPP and their continuing contribution through ISPP Council could be an advantage. Agreement on this would require changes to ISPP Statutes.



World Directory of Plant Pathologists. This searchable database of plant pathologists around the world is made possible through the funding and efforts of the International Society for Plant Pathology and support from the Fran Fisher Trust, an endowment from the late Fran Fisher who conceived and published the first World Directory of Plant Pathologists in 1973. Currently, 22 societies participate in the World Directory. One impediment to expansion of the Directory is that some societies use language scripts other than the Latin alphabet (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Thai etc.) for their membership data bases. Another is legislated privacy provisions in some countries and regions. In 2018-2023, ISPP will continue to maintain the World Directory and encourage membership by additional societies.

3. ISPP Subject Matter Committees (SMCs) and Taskforces

Subject Matter Committees (SMCs). The ISPP Vice President responsible for ISPP Subject Committees (Dr Serge Savary 2013-2018 and Dr Khaled Makkouk, 2018-2023) maintains liaison with c. 20 current ISPP SMCs. Reports from nine Committees were received at ICPP2013, two new committees were established (quarantine/biosecurity and crop loss) and another re-established (seed pathology). Several SMC reports have been received or anticipated for ICPP2018 with an Oomycete Committee newly formed to replace the *Phytophthora* Committee. Four other SMCs have become inactive due to retirements of SMC leaders or for other reasons, and have been delisted (Citrus, Extension, Common Names of Plant Diseases and Biological Control). During 2013-2018 some Committees met between congresses and most have organised sessions of evening meetings, workshops or field trips linked to ICPP2018. In 2018-2023, the ISPP will encourage SMCs to actively contribute to the proposed IYPH2020 and fore-sighting of Challenges in Plant Pathology 2050.

Taskforce on Global Food Security (TF-FS). During 2013-2018 the TF-FS chaired by Professor Lise Korsten reviewed its aim and strategies:

The aim of the ISPP TF-FS, in consultation with ISPP's Executive Committee, is to foster linkages between plant pathology and key food security challenges, to promote understanding of the issues and to facilitate action to sustain global food security.

This is to be achieved through a balanced program including action-based projects and institutional linkages. The TF-FS will serve as a platform for information exchange, for example through the Food Security journal, and through knowledge bases, position papers, think tanks and conferences. Progress towards the aim will require funds to be raised.

At the ISPP executive meeting in Capetown in 2017, it was agreed that the TF-FS should produce a final report (20 years of activity) and could then continue to function as a Commission under the guidelines for ISPP SMCs, and that ISPP should consider an additional Task Force with a different focus in the future.

- The TF-FS and ISPP were represented by Professors Lodovica Gullino (ISPP Past President) and Lise Korsen (Task Force Chair) at the 3rd World Forum on Local Economic Development in Torino, Italy during October 2015.
- The Editor in Chief of the ISPP journal, Food Security, attended the 2nd Annual Agriculture, Nutrition & Health (ANH) Academy Week and 5th Annual Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Nutrition Agriculture-Nutrition Scientific Symposium in Katmandu, Nepal during 2017.
- Professor Korsten was Conference Chair for the 3rd International Conference on Global Food Security: Global Challenges, Local Solutions and Connected Pathways, 3-6 December 2017 sponsored by Elsevier and the University of Pretoria. Several Task Force members and three ISPP Executive members participated and / or presented papers.
- A position paper on genetic modification was prepared by TF-FS Force members and published as: [Peter Scott *et al.* \(2016\). Genetic modification for disease resistance: a position paper. *Food Security* 8: 865–870.](#) Plans for other 'position papers' are being progressed.
- The TF-FS has organised keynote and concurrent sessions and an evening meeting for ICPP2018.

(v) Work Plan 2018-2023 – Recommendation 5 – ISPP Commission on Global Food Security

In 2018-2023, the ISPP Commission on Global Food security will continue to serve as a platform for information exchange, for example through the Food Security journal, and through knowledge bases, position papers, think tanks and conferences and the organisation of a Plenary Session at ICPP2023

Task Force on Challenges for Plant Pathology 2050 and the International Year of Plant Health 2020.

The ISPP is liaising with the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) which is seeking FAO and United Nations support in proclaiming an International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) in 2020. The IPPC has organised a concurrent session at ICPP2018 in which planning for IYPH2020 will be discussed.

In tandem with the proposed IYPH2020 initiative, the ISPP has established a new ISPP Task Force on Challenges for Plant Pathology 2050 (TF-PP2050) to identify key challenges in plant pathology in 2050 and foster global focus on addressing them. Lodovica Gullino and Greg Johnson are the inaugural co-chairs of the TF-PP2050. In 2018-2023 outcomes of the TF-PP2050 will include:

- A framework of committees focusing on key subject areas (linked with ISPP Subject matter Committees and ISPP Associated Societies; IMA, IUFRO). Younger plant pathologists will be encouraged to take lead in the foresight effort.
- Consultations and workshops to review and address the key challenges for plant pathology 2050 and develop pathways for progress against them.
- A series of ISPP Books "Plant Pathology in the 21st Century" that covers key challenges.

(vi) Work Plan 2018-2023 – Recommendation 6 – ISPP Task Force on Challenges for Plant Pathology 2050

In 2018-2023, the TF-PP2050 will be a major focus of ISPP through activities and fore-sighting linked to the proposed International Year of Plant Health with outcomes delivered through workshops, meetings, publications, and activities that engage youth and young plant pathologists.

4. ISPP Newsletter, the Journal and Books

ISPP Newsletter. After the resignation and untimely death of Emeritus Professor Brian Deverall in 2014, Dr Daniel Hüberli became ISPP Newsletter editor in late 2014, with an edition published every

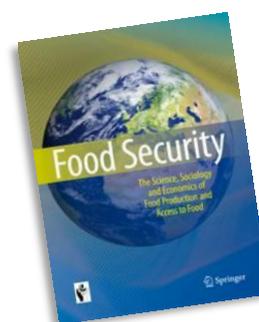
month. Daniel has agreed to continue as Newsletter Editor in 2018-2023. Thanks to Peter Scott and Peter Williamson, all back issues of the newsletter are now available on the web and can be searched by key-word.

(vii) Work Plan 2018-2023 – Recommendation 7 – ISPP newsletter and social media

In 2018-2023, the ISPP will continue to produce a monthly newsletter and to expand the social media of the society.

ISPP Publishers. During 2015 competition authorities including the European Union and the US Department of Justice cleared the merger of Springer Science+Business Media (the publisher of the ISPP Journal and Book series) and the majority of Macmillan Science and Education. The new company is called Springer Nature. The agreement between Holtzbrinck Publishing Group (owner of Macmillan Science and Education) and BC Partners (advisors of funds which own Springer) was announced on 15 January 2015.

ISPP Journal *Food Security*. The journal has progressed very well with Richard Strange as Editor in Chief. In late 2016, Stephen Waddington assumed additional responsibilities as Deputy Editor in Chief. Richard Strange will stand down as Editor in Chief at the end of 2018. ISPP called for expressions of interest for a new EiC during early 2018 and after due consideration, Dr Serge Savary, outgoing ISPP VP, agreed to take over as Editor in Chief commencing with the first issue of the journal Volume 11 in 2019.



Journal performance	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Impact factor	1.638	1.495	1.557	2.271	2.970

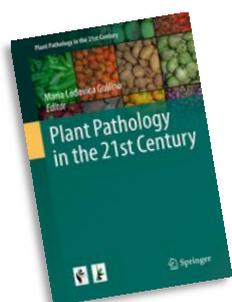
ISPP Journal Trust. The ISPP Plant Pathology Journal Trust Committee (JTC) oversees the financial and contractual arrangements for the ISPP Journal ‘*Food Security: The Science, Sociology and Economics of Food Production and Access to Food*’ and provides advice and recommendations to the ISPP Executive and Council in relation to editorial matters and the publication and ISPP’s co-ownership of the Journal.

(viii) Work Plan 2018-2023 – Recommendation 8 – ISPP Journal Trust

In 2018-2023 the ISPP Journal Trust will provide advice to the ISPP Executive in relation to ongoing publication and ownership of the journal.

(ix) Work Plan 2018-2023 – Recommendation 9 – ISPP Journal

In 2022-2023, the ISPP will progress provisions under, and negotiations concerning the publishing agreement.



Springer – ISPP Book Series *Plant Pathology in the 21st Century*. Under an agreement with Springer, three books were published based on papers presented at ICPP2013. During 2017, the ISPP reached an agreement with Springer to broaden the scope of the series and publish additional volumes based on key topics as well as on papers presented at future Congresses with Professor M. Lodovica Gullino continuing as Series Editor. An eighth volume was published during 2017. Within Springer, responsibility for oversight of the book

series has passed to Mariska van der Stigchel. At present, two or three books have been proposed for the Series based on papers presented at ICPP2018.

(x) **Work Plan 2018-2023 – Recommendation 10 – ISPP Books**

In 2018-2023, the ISPP will continue to publish the book series Plant Pathology for the 21st Century in partnership with Springer Nature.

5. Jakob Eriksson Prize for Plant Pathology and other ISPP Awards.

Jakob Eriksson Prize. The 2013 Jakob Eriksson Prize was presented during the closing ceremony of the 10th International Congress of Plant Pathology in Beijing, China on Friday 30 August 2013, to [Professor Jeffrey B. Jones](#) (shown right) of the University of Florida, in recognition of outstanding international research contributions on the interactions between bacterial pathogens and their host plants. Professor Jones presented the second Jakob Eriksson Prize Oration on the topic 'Recent approaches for control of bacterial spot of pepper and tomato and citrus bacterial canker'.



Following consultation with the Jakob Eriksson Prize Commission after ICPP2013, the membership of the Prize Commission was expanded, and involvement of ISPP in the nomination and selection processes was strengthened, ahead of the call for nominations for the 2018 Prize. The call for nominations was brought forward and the recipient of the [2018 Prize was announced in November 2017](#).



The 2018 Jakob Eriksson Prize is to be awarded to Emeritus Professor Pierre JGM de Wit (shown right) of the Laboratory of Phytopathology, Wageningen University, The Netherlands, for his pioneering research in molecular plant pathology and plant-microbe interactions.

(xi) **Work Plan 2018-2023 – Recommendation 11 – Jakob Eriksson Prize**

In 2018-2028 the ISPP will continue to work closely with the Jakob Eriksson Commission to oversee and select the recipient of the Jakob Eriksson Prize for Plant Pathology.

ISPP Fellows. A call for nomination for ISPP fellows was made in early 2018 for awards to be made in the ICPP2018 Closing Ceremony. Fellow nominations are overseen by the ISPP President.

Francenia Fisher Award. The Fran E. Fisher Award was established by the ISPP in 2018, to honour individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to both the science of plant pathology and society through dedicating their lives to connecting plant pathologists around the globe so as to improve plant health. The inaugural award will be made to Dr Charlie Delp at ICPP2018 in Boston.

(xii) **Work Plan 2018-2023 – Recommendation 12 – ISPP Fellows and Francenia Fisher Award**

The ISPP Executive should be responsible for election of Fellows of ISPP and for selecting the recipient of the Francenia Fisher Award. Formal election of Fellows will still occur at the ICPP Council Meeting.