

## 2022 nominations for the Board of ISSCD; alphabetical order

### Dr Robert (Bob) Anderson



**Consultant Gastroenterologist, EndosQ (Mackay); Honorary Senior Fellow, Wesley Medical Research (Brisbane); Director/CEO and Co-Founder Novoviah Pharmaceuticals (Brisbane), AUSTRALIA.**

Dr Anderson has a global and multi-disciplinary perspective on celiac disease. Over the past 30 years he has developed a diverse set of skills and has had extended periods living in four countries while developing expertise in clinical, scientific, commercial and patient support aspects of celiac disease. He is an adult gastroenterologist, translational immunologist, and pharmaceutical and diagnostic developer. He has lived and worked in New Zealand (born, educated and trained in medicine and PhD in experimental medicine), Australia (clinical specialist training for 6 years and later celiac disease specialised consultant gastroenterologist, founding celiac disease immunology lab head at Walter and Eliza Hall Institute in Melbourne for 10 years, and CSO and later CEO Nexpep Pty Ltd for 6 years), UK (post-doctoral fellow and honorary consultant in gastroenterology, Oxford University and John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford for 4 years) and USA (CSO and scientific founder ImmusanT Inc., Cambridge MA for 8 years). For the past two years, he has practised clinical gastroenterology in a community setting in a regional town in tropical north Queensland, and also established a start-up company developing T-cell assays for diagnosis and monitoring celiac disease. His key research contributions to celiac disease have been to define the antigenic gluten peptides for and biomarkers of the adaptive immune response causing celiac disease. He has led a resurgence in gluten challenge as a research tool for revealing unrecognised clinical and immune aspects of celiac disease, and for its use in monitoring efficacy of new drugs.

Over a 12 year period until 2019, he led the design and clinical development of the first targeted immunotherapy for celiac disease, Nexvax2. He has been closely involved in celiac disease support groups in Australia (founder coeliac research fund and medical advisory committee for Coeliac Australia), and been patron of Coeliac New Zealand, as well as a regular presenter for Coeliac UK and support groups in the USA. He has been motivated by the vision that celiac disease could be "solved" by effective interventions guided by high quality scientific research. He is based in the Asia-Pacific. Similar to the European and American regional societies fostering the study of celiac disease, he sees a clear need for an aligned Asia-Pacific regional grouping. The upcoming ISSCD meeting in Melbourne would be an opportune time to highlight the regional needs and opportunities for an "APSSCD" that could strengthen ISSCD's mission.

## Dr Fernando Chirido



**Professor of Immunology Exact Sciences Faculty, National University of La Plata, Principal Investigator at the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET). Instituto de Estudios Inmunológicos y Fisiopatológicos (UNLP-CONICET) La Plata, ARGENTINA**

Dr Chirido received a degree in Biochemistry at the National University of La Plata (Argentina) in 1988. He then undertook PhD studies in immunology, focusing on immunochemical detection of gliadins and serology in celiac disease, obtaining his PhD in Biochemistry in 1995. During this work, he developed an immunochemical platform to detect gliadins which became the basis of the national screening process for gluten free products in Argentina, which was then extended to Chile. He also took part in national and international commissions to establish the legislation for labelling these products. In 2002, he was nominated as an Executive Member of the European Working Group on Prolamin Analysis and Toxicity. During 2002-3, under the supervision of Prof. Allan Mowat (University of Glasgow, Scotland), he was one of the first people to isolate and characterize intestinal dendritic cells. After returning to Argentina, he became a Professor of Immunology at the National University of La Plata in 2006.

Dr Chirido has played a leading role in promoting the interaction among scientists from Latin America. It was his initiative that led to the creation of the Latin American Mucosal Immunology Group (LAMIG) in 2016 and he is currently the chairperson of the LAMIG network which includes more than 330 scientists from all over the continent.

Dr Chirido has been a member of the Membership Committee of the Society for Mucosal Immunology since 2015 and he was elected as Councillor of the Board for the term 2019-2022.

His current research focuses on the immunobiology of the small intestine, using in vivo animal models and human samples to explore the role of gliadin peptides in driving innate immunity in celiac disease, with particular emphasis on type I and III IFNs and cell death pathways, inflammatory and regulatory mechanisms.

## Dr Iris Jonkers



**Associate professor, University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG),  
NETHERLANDS**

Throughout her career Iris has sought to understand how gene expression is regulated and affects biological processes in health and disease. During her PhD, she focused on the regulation of X chromosome inactivation, leading to the discovery of the first positive regulator of this process. As a postdoc at Cornell University, she investigated the role of elongation in transcription using a novel technique—genome-wide run-on sequencing—and was the first to simultaneously measure >2000 elongation rates, leading to highly cited eLife and Nature Reviews manuscripts. Iris then realized that her expertise in gene expression regulation and application of state-of-the-art genomics techniques could contribute to understanding complex human diseases, as most genetic variants underlying complex diseases are non-coding and work by affecting gene expression. Iris changed fields and moved to the UMCG Genetics department (2014) to investigate transcription regulation in celiac disease (CeD), and has since specialized in understanding how gene expression and disease pathways are affected by genetic factors associated with autoimmune diseases.

Iris has initiated a number of national and international collaborations where protocols to extract CD8+ T-cells from intestinal biopsies were developed with a recent publication describing the response of intraepithelial CD8+ T-cells to CeD associated cytokines and several ongoing projects involving primary intraepithelial CD8+ T-cells. Iris is a group leader in the KG Jebsen Coeliac Disease Research Centre where they have profiled gluten specific CD4+ T-cells and she has ongoing collaborations to map the genetic involvement in epithelial cells and lymphocytes. Recently, Iris has started to explore the incidence of CeD in adults in the HUNT cohort study, Norway. She has carried out the largest targeted eQTL analysis for CeD to date, identifying the master regulator TRAFD1 and is a member of the international PreventCD consortium, leading to two recent publications identifying CeD-specific predictive biomarkers.

To acquire patient samples and data, Iris set up the CeD North Netherlands (CeDNN) cohort in collaboration with pediatricians and gastroenterologists at the UMCG, Wilhelmina Hospital in Assen and Rijnstate Hospital in Arnhem. A cohort available to investigate genetic and environmental interactions in CeD. To date there are >200 participants who are regularly updated and encouraged to engage in research.

To expand beyond CeD, Iris received a grant from stichting MS research to unravel the impact of genetic variants on the non-coding genome in cell types associated in multiple sclerosis. She is also a member of the TIMID consortium, which aims to compare different autoimmune diseases to find both overlapping and unique biomarkers and pathways in autoimmune disease. Iris is also a member of the Netherland-Organ-on-Chip (NOCI) Zwaartekracht consortium.

Iris has been invited to speak at many conferences and workshops e.g. the ESPGHAN conference, International Coeliac Disease Symposium and NIAID-NIDDK Celiac Disease Workshop and has delivered keynote addresses at the Swammerdam Institute for Life Sciences, Turku Bioscience Institute, Finland and University of Antioquia, Colombia. Iris is highly motivated to increase the societal impact of CeD research—I am a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Dutch Celiac Disease Association (NCV) and regularly present my work online and in person at patient conferences organized by the NCV and Coeliac UK, the largest European CeD patient organization.

Iris believes her research benefits from interaction with industrial and pharmaceutical partners and actively seeks opportunities to enhance its translational potential. She has an ongoing collaboration with Emulate Inc., from whom she received the organ-on-chip system to set-up the

human gut-on-chip model. The TIMID consortium also includes 5 industrial partners, increasing the translational potential of findings. Iris is also in contact with Teva pharmaceuticals, Takeda pharmaceuticals and Danone to discuss collaborative projects using the organoid immune cell co-culture system to test potential biologicals and prebiotics.

Iris' is the associate professor and head of the Immunogenetics chair, she is a mentor and teacher in the Molecular Medicine and Innovative Treatment Master program and has designed courses and teaches in the Biomedical Sciences Master program and the Junior Scientific Master program for honours Medicine students. As well as supervising students of all stage, she regularly teaches clinicians, clinicians in training and diagnostic staff about the role of the non-coding DNA in pathology and developments in molecular biology/medicine such as CRISPR-Cas9 technology.

Overall, Iris is a passionate researcher with an extensive network in autoimmunity and a highly multi-disciplinary research line that combines immunogenetics, advanced intestinal models and genomics.

### Professor Kalle Kurppa



Kalle Kurppa, MD, PhD, is currently working as a Professor of Pediatrics (acting) in the Tampere University and Tampere University Hospital. He has >100 clinical and translational publications about celiac disease, including both paediatric and adult studies. He is also participating very actively in research training. His previous works about the diagnostics and screening of celiac disease have had major impact on the recent diagnostic guidelines. The main topics of current research are to decipher the early environmental triggers of celiac disease and to further improve the serological and histology based diagnostics. Other topics of interest are early screening of celiac disease and transition of pediatric patients to adult care. Dr Kurppa is an active participant of the large prospective DIPP and TEDDY birth cohort studies investigating the early development of type 1 diabetes and celiac disease, as well as a core member of the ESPGHAN celiac disease study group.

### Dr Edwin Liu MD



**Professor of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Colorado, University of Colorado School of Medicine. Director of the Colorado Center for Celiac Disease, USA.**

Dr Edwin Liu is a Pediatric Gastroenterologist and Director of the Colorado Center for Celiac Disease and part of NASPGHAN's Celiac Disease special interest group. He is one of the founding members of the Society for the Study of Celiac Disease (SSCD) and inaugural council member. His specific interest has been in celiac disease serology, mass screening and celiac disease epidemiology, particularly as it relates to type 1 diabetes. He is seeking to help expand collaboration in pediatric celiac disease in the US to other countries internationally through their collaborative groups within NASPGHAN and also through RAISE-CD.

## Professor David Sanders



**Professor of Gastroenterology and a Consultant  
Gastroenterologist, Royal Hallamshire Hospital and the  
University of Sheffield, UK**

Professor David S Sanders is a Professor of Gastroenterology and a Consultant Gastroenterologist at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital and the University of Sheffield. He has published >400 peer reviewed papers (H-score > 85). He is internationally recognised for his work in celiac disease.

He has received a number of research awards: European Rising Star Award (2010), Cuthbertson Medal (2011) and Silver Medal in 2017 (the latter two awards from the UK Nutrition Society), Swedish Gastroenterology Society Bengt Ihre Medal (2017) and most recently the BSG Hopkins prize for Endoscopy (2019).

His clinical work with patients who have celiac disease has resulted in him being awarded the Coeliac UK Healthcare Professional of the Year Award (2010) & the inaugural Complete Nutrition Coeliac Healthcare Professional Award (2013). In 2017 because of his diverse clinical nutrition interests he was voted (by patients and healthcare professionals) the Clinical Nutrition Healthcare Professional of the Year.

He is fortunate to work as part of the Sheffield Gastroenterology Team which has been recognised for its standards of clinical care. The Sheffield Unit has been designated as the National Centre for Refractory Coeliac Disease (NHS England) and a World Endoscopy Organisation GI Centre of Excellence (2020).

He is the current Chair of the Coeliac UK Health Advisory Council. Previous roles include chair of the British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG) Small Bowel and Nutrition Section (2006-2012), BSG Audit Committee (2010-2013), BSG Council Member 2016-19 and President of the International Society for the Study of Coeliac Disease 2015-2019 (ISSCD) and Board member of the European Society for Study of Celiac Disease (ESsCD).

"I am particularly keen to be elected onto the ISSCD board again in order to facilitate the ICDS planned for Sheffield in 2024. At the best of times having this responsibility is stressful (although also an honour) but particularly understanding the challenges we now face in the pandemic era. I think that by liaising directly with the Board I will be able to ensure the best possible meeting for all the researchers and clinicians who share our interest in celiac disease and gluten related disorders."

<http://www.profdavidsanders.co.uk/>



## Professor Ludvig Sollid



**Professor at the University of Oslo and a Senior Consultant at the Oslo University Hospital - Rikshospitalet. Director of the KG Jebsen Coeliac Disease Centre, Norway.**

Prof Sollid's research interests are focused around genetics and immunology of autoimmune diseases in general and celiac disease in particular. His group has made important contributions to the understanding of the molecular basis of celiac disease, in particular the role of HLA genes, the existence of gluten reactive (HLA-DQ restricted) T cells in the celiac intestinal lesion, the identification of immunotoxic gluten peptide sequences and the involvement of the transglutaminase 2 in the pathogenesis of the disease. His group is currently working on the characterization of the antigen receptors of T cells and B cells that recognize the celiac disease relevant antigens gluten and transglutaminase 2.

Sollid is the recipient of several research awards including the Research Council of Norway's Møbius Prize for Outstanding Research, the Warren Prize for Excellence in Celiac Disease Research, the Rank Prize in Nutrition, the UEG Research Prize and the Jahre Medical Prize (junior award 1998 and senior award 2015).

He currently serves on the editorial boards of Mucosal Immunology, Scandinavian Journal of Immunology, Tissue Antigens, Genes and Immunity and Gastroenterology.

## Nick Trott RD



**Specialist Gastroenterology Dietitian, Royal Hallamshire Hospital and the University of Sheffield, UK**

Nick obtained an honours degree in Nutrition and Dietetics from Cardiff Metropolitan University in 1999. Post-graduation, Nick has worked in a variety of clinical areas within the NHS including critical care, oncology and haematology.

Currently, Nick works as a Gastroenterology Dietitian, covering the Specialist Coeliac Clinic at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield. His areas of clinical interest include celiac disease, gluten ataxia, non-celiac wheat sensitivity and the Low FODMAP approach to disorders of gut brain interaction.

Nick is a member of Coeliac UK's Health Advisory Network, The European Society for the Study of Celiac Disease (ESsCD) and was presented with the Complete Nutrition Coeliac Professional of the year award in 2016. In 2017 Nick attained a master's degree in Clinical Research from the University of Sheffield and is currently pursuing a PhD in the role of the dietitian in the management of celiac disease.

As ISSCD is the international organisation for professionals working in the field of celiac disease it would be an honour to be re-elected to the ISSCD board. In my role as a dietitian, both my clinical and research focus is specifically centred on the treatment of celiac disease through the use and application of the gluten free diet. If re-elected I would aim to further contribute to the ISSCD's goals of the promotion of scientific knowledge and the enhancement of professional education in regard to celiac disease and gluten mediated human disease.

## Dr Elena F Verdu



**Professor, Division of Gastroenterology and Associate Director, Farncombe Family Digestive Health Research Institute (FFDHRI), Department of Medicine. Director, Axenic Gnotobiotic Unit, McMaster University and Research Chair, Tier 1 in Microbial Therapeutics and Nutrition in Gastroenterology, CANADA**

Dr Verdu obtained an MD and trained in internal medicine in Argentina before undertaking a clinical research fellowship with Prof Andre Blum, at the Division of Gastroenterology in Lausanne (CHUV), Switzerland. Funded by a UNESCO fellowship, Dr Verdu pursued a PhD degree under the direction of Prof Helena Tlaskalova, in immunology and gnotobiology at the Czech Academy of Science on the effect of commensal bacterial antigens in inflammatory bowel disease and celiac disease. She then trained as a post-doctoral fellow with Prof Stephen Collins at McMaster University, Canada, where her work focused on gut bacteria and their effect on gut function and inflammation. In 2006, Dr Verdu was appointed faculty at McMaster University, where she developed a program to investigate host-microbial and dietary interactions in celiac disease and IBD. Her research aims at deciphering commensal and opportunistic pathogen metabolism of gluten and other dietary proteins and how that process affects their inflammatory capacity in the host. She is director of the Axenic and Gnotobiotic facility and Associate Director of the Farncombe Institute at McMaster.

She received the 2007 New Investigator Award (Canadian Celiac Association; CCA), the 2011 Master's Award in Gastroenterology in Basic Science (American Gastroenterology Association), the 2012 Canadian Association of Gastroenterology (CAG) Young Investigator Award, the 2017 CAG Visiting Research Professor Award, the 2019 CAG Education Excellence Award, the 2020 CAG Research Excellence Award, and the 2020 Crohn's and Colitis of Canada (CCC)-Pfizer Women in IBD: Outstanding Research Achievement Award. Currently she holds the rank of full professor and has served as Treasurer of the CAG, as founding member and past president of the Society for the Study of Celiac Disease, and in several committees with the AGA Institute. She is currently senior associate editor (Basic Science) of Gastroenterology.

## Dr Fabiana Zingone



**Assistant Professor in Gastroenterology, University of Padua, ITALY.**

Dr Zingone was born in Naples (Italy) and since 2017 she has had the role of Assistant Professor in Gastroenterology at the University of Padua. Here, she conducts her research and clinical activity on immune-mediated gastrointestinal disorders with a particular focus on gluten-related disorders. In addition to her research and clinical activity, she teaches gastroenterology to nurses and medical students, residents in gastroenterology, and PhD students.

She has been involved in clinical and basic gastroenterology research since she was a trainee doctor in Gastroenterology, especially regarding gluten-related disorders. After her residency at the "Federico II" University of Naples, she participated in a Clinical Research Training Fellowship in Gastrointestinal Epidemiology at the Division of Epidemiology and Public Health at The University of Nottingham as an Academic Visitor, obtaining a Master in Applied Epidemiology. During this period, she developed the ability to analyze big data, conduct epidemiological studies, and form many productive and ongoing collaborations. She was a member of the "Oslo Group" international

study group and has contributed to defining the standard celiac disease terminology (Gut 2013) and writing the celiac disease management guidelines (Gut 2014). In December 2015, she completed her PhD in the "Epidemiology of celiac disease".

From August 2012 to June 2017, she conducted basic and clinical research projects on coeliac disease at the University of Salerno. In April 2017, she obtained the National Academic Qualification as Associate Professor. So far, she has published > 120 peer reviewed papers (Scopus H-index 23). She recently coordinates the drafting of the Italian Guidelines on Celiac Disease, published on DLD.