

## **International Society for the study of Celiac Disease (ISSCD)**

### **Young ISSCD committee**

The Young ISSCD (yISSCD) Committee of the International Society for the Study of Celiac Disease (ISSCD) is dedicated to supporting members of the ISSCD that are in an early stage of their careers. The yISSCD Committee aims to build a supportive network for these researchers, fostering collaboration and professional growth through community-focused initiatives. By increasing visibility, offering mentorship, and creating interdisciplinary learning opportunities, the committee seeks to strengthen the field and attract new talent to advance Celiac Disease research.

#### **Role**

The role of the Committee is to advance the ISSCD's Objectives (ISSCD Statutes Section 2.1 and 2.2) in relation to (1) promoting international research efforts in the field of Celiac disease and gluten-mediated human diseases; (2) improving the quality of research in the field of Celiac disease and gluten-mediated human diseases; and (3) organizing educational and intellectual exchange in the field of Celiac disease and gluten-mediated diseases.

#### **Remit**

- **Build a Supportive Network for Early-Career Researchers**
  - Connect young researchers in celiac disease to foster collaboration, peer support, and shared learning opportunities.
- **Enhance Visibility and Recognition**
  - Promote the work and achievements of young researchers within ISSCD and the Celiac Disease scientific community.
- **Facilitate Mentorship and Skill Development**
  - Provide mentorship and training programs to support career growth and essential research skills.
- **Organize Educational and Networking Events**
  - Host seminars, journal clubs, and workshops on core and emerging topics to encourage interdisciplinary understanding.
- **Attract and Retain Talent in the Field**
  - Engage new researchers and build enthusiasm for long-term careers in celiac disease research through outreach and visibility efforts.

#### **Membership**

1. **Co-Chairs:** Two co-chairs will lead the yISSCD, providing strategic direction, facilitating meetings, and representing the committee in broader ISSCD activities. The co-chairs should be from two different countries.
2. **Co-Vice Chairs:** Two co-vice chairs will support the co-chairs in their duties and step in during their absence. They will assist in coordinating committee activities and initiatives. The co-vice chairs should be from two different countries.

3. **Committee Members:** The yISSCD committee members support the Young ISSCD's mission by organizing events, managing outreach and communications, coordinating mentorship, handling public engagement, and securing funding. They ensure smooth operations by sharing responsibilities, maintaining records, and fostering connections within the celiac research community.

#### **Definition of a member:**

To qualify for joining the yISSCD, the member must:

- Be a member in good standing of ISSCD.
- Be early-career researchers, including MSc students, PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, or professionals within 8 (eight) years of completing their PhD.
- Be demonstrably actively involved in celiac disease research.
- Demonstrate a commitment to contributing to the committee's goals and initiatives.

The Committee will be composed of about eight members, including the Chairs and vice-Chairs, but may be enlarged in agreement with the ISSCD Board.

#### **Rotation**

- **Leadership Roles (Chairs and Vice-Chairs):**
  - Serve a term of 2 years, with the option to be re-elected for one additional term if desired.
  - Staggered rotations are encouraged to ensure continuity, with one leadership role transitioning each term.
- **Committee Members:**
  - Serve a term of 2 years, with the possibility of renewing for another 2-year term if actively contributing.
  - Members who transition out of early-career status or shift focus away from celiac disease research are encouraged to step down to make room for new members.

At the end of each term, positions will be opened for new applicants, with current members welcome to reapply or recommend successors. New leadership and members are selected through a vote within the committee or by ISSCD board approval, as appropriate.

#### **Roles and responsibilities**

##### **1. Co-chairs**

- Lead and facilitate quarterly yISSCD meetings.
- Develop meeting agendas in collaboration with co-vice chairs.
- Represent the yISSCD at ISSCD Board meetings and other relevant forums.
- Oversee the implementation of the yISSCD initiatives and projects.
- Ensure effective communication within the committee and with external stakeholders.

## **2. Co-Vice Chairs**

- Assist co-Chairs in planning and conducting meetings.
- Step in for co-chairs as needed.
- Help coordinate the execution of yISSCD activities and projects.

## **3. Committee Members**

- Actively participate in quarterly meetings.
- Contribute to the development of strategies that support yISSCD members.
- Facilitate educational and networking events to connect young researchers within the coeliac disease field.

### **In attendance shall be:**

- The co-Chairs, vice-Chairs and committee members
- ISSCD Board Members may attend meetings as required
- ISSCD administrators may attend the meetings as required

### **Meetings**

#### **1. Frequency**

The yISSCD will hold quarterly meetings, with additional meetings scheduled as needed to address urgent issues or opportunities.

#### **2. Format**

Meetings may be via video conference, or through other virtual platforms to ensure accessibility and participation from all members. In-person meetings will be held in conjunction with the bi-annual International Celiac Disease Symposium.

#### **3. Agenda and Minutes**

Agendas will be distributed at least one week prior to each meeting. Minutes will be recorded and shared with committee members via the yISSCD google drive within two weeks following the meeting.

The Committee will report at least annually to the ISSCD Board.

### **Selection process**

ISSCD members will be notified of Committee vacancies on the ISSCD website and/or by other electronic means. Expressions of interest for Committee membership will be reviewed by the co-Chairs who will provide their recommendations to the ISSCD Board for final approval. The members of the Committee will be selected by the ISSCD Board and the co-chairs based on their commitment to the field.

### **Conduct**

Members of the committee will be formally announced on the ISSCD website and are not permitted to publicly promote themselves as members of the committee e.g. on third party websites or social media platforms. Committee members do not have authority to speak on behalf of or represent the ISSCD, unless authorised by the ISSCD Board. All members of the committee must complete a conflicts of interest and confidentiality form and at each committee meeting they must disclose any new conflicts of interest that may have arisen.