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## Summary of ISAPP activities November 2013

The mission of ISAPP is to advance scientific excellence in probiotics and prebiotics. We believe that ISAPP is an important and impartial player in providing a voice for scientific excellence in the field, without acting as a promoter of any individual product. We seek to deliver on our mission by many different methods. Our annual meeting is the most visible output and provides an opportunity for scientists from industry and academia to engage in one-to-one meetings, or in group discussions on topics selected in combination with our industry partners. These invitation-only meetings have fostered many productive industry-academia relationships and have provided a nucleus of expertise to address important issues in the probiotic and prebiotic fields. We also set up meetings with regulators, write position papers and convene consensus panels as needed. We believe that we are viewed as a strong and independent voice of reason within probiotic and prebiotic science, and that we can help to ensure the future is bright for companies and researchers alike working in this exciting field.

None of this would be possible without the support of our industry members and the energy and enthusiasm of our [Board of Directors](#) and the many scientists who contribute freely to ISAPP events and initiatives. We take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed over the last year, and we look forward to an equally productive year ahead.

### Accomplishments

- ISAPP convened its 2013 annual meeting in collaboration with New York Academy of Sciences. This NIH-funded conference is summarized in a [publication](#) in the Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences.
- ISAPP posted comments to the 2015 U.S. Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee, recommending that probiotics and prebiotics be considered as part of a healthy, American diet: [Prebiotic](#); [Probiotic](#)
- ISAPP convened a consensus panel with 10 academic experts on appropriate use of the term “probiotic,” in London, October 23-24, 2013. Recommendations are being compiled in a manuscript for submission to Nature Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol.
- ISAPP co-sponsored an International Conference and Workshop on the Microbiome and Probiotics in Kenya. [Read more.](#)
- ISAPP will be a signatory, along with the American Society of Nutrition and ILSI-NA, on a letter to the FDA (and a request for a follow up meeting) asking them to withdraw their recent [Guidance](#) requiring functional food/supplement research in the United States be conducted under Investigational New Drug (IND) applications. See related [blog post](#).
- ISAPP published an [open letter in response to accusations of publication bias in the field of probiotics](#).
- ISAPP is a key partner in the production of the film documentary, Microwarriors 2. Leonard Nimoy agreed to host the follow up to the first installment, “[Microwarriors. The Power of Probiotics.](#)”
- Greg Leyer, DuPont and Chris Cifelli, Dairy Research Institute, are active Sr. and Jr. IAC representatives to the ISAPP board.

## International Scientific Association for Probiotics and Prebiotics

[www.isapp.net](http://www.isapp.net)

- The ISAPP [Student and Fellows Association](#) has 209 active members, up 8% due to a recent recruitment campaign. Posting jobs related to the prebiotic, probiotic and microbiome fields is an SFA priority. The 2014 SFA meeting will be held in conjunction with the ISAPP meeting in Aberdeen.

### Looking ahead

#### Annual meetings

- Planning for ISAPP 2014 is in full swing. The meeting will be in conjunction with the [Rowett Research Institute/INRA gut microbiota meeting](#) in Aberdeen Scotland, June 16-20, 2014.
- ISAPP 2015 to be held at Georgetown University, Washington DC, hosted by Dr. Daniel Merenstein.
- ISAPP 2016 meeting will be in Turku, Finland, hosted by Dr. Seppo Salminen.

ISAPP task force to meet with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission to discuss translation of research (in particular research conducted under an investigational new drug application) into product claims for foods or dietary supplements.

2014 WGO World Digestive Day – ISAPP is working with WGO staff to develop materials to educate the general public as well as health care practitioners on the microbiota, pre and probiotics - what they are and what they are not!

### Recent manuscripts from ISAPP events: published, in press or in preparation

Reflected below resulted from the 2012 meeting in Cork Ireland, the 2013 meeting at the New York Academy of Sciences or other collaborative efforts:

- Hill C, Guarner F, Reid G, Gibson GR, Merenstein D, Flint H, Morelli L, Pot B, Salminen S, Canani RB, Sanders ME. Probiotic definition 12 years later: recommendations from expert panel. Results from consensus panel. (Manuscript in preparation)
- Sanders ME, Lenoir-Wijnkoop I, Salminen S, Merenstein D, Pot B, Petschow BW, Nieuwdorp M, Tancredi D, Cifelli D, Jacques P, Gibson G. Probiotics and Prebiotics: Prospects for Public Health and Nutritional Recommendations. (Manuscript in preparation)
- Sanders, et al. How safety and efficacy of probiotics may be impacted by genetic, processing or product formulation changes. (Submitted, Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences)
- Sheridan PO, Bindels L, Saulnier DM, Reid G, Nova E, Holmgren K, O'Toole PW, Bunn J, Delzenne N, Scott KP. Can prebiotics and probiotics improve therapeutic outcomes for undernourished individuals? (In Press, Gut Microbes)
- Blatchford P, Ansell J, Godoy, MRC, Fahey G, Garcia-Mazcorro JF, Gibson GR, Goh YJ, Hotchkiss AT, Hutkins R, LaCroix C, Rastall RA, Reimer R, Schoterman M, Van Sinderen D, Venema K, Whelan K. Prebiotic mechanisms, functions and applications. (Accepted, Inter J Probiotics Prebiotics)
- Petschow B, Doré J, Hibberd P, Dinan T, Reid G, Blaser M, Cani P, Degnan F, Foster J, Gibson G, Hutton J, Klaenhammer TR, Ley R, Nieuwdorp M, Pot B, Relman D, Serazin A and Sanders ME. [Probiotics, prebiotics, and the host microbiome: the science of translation](#). Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences.
- Shane AL, Deshpande GC, Merenstein D. [Improved neonatal outcomes with probiotics](#). JAMA Pediatr. 2013 Aug 5. doi: 10.1001/jamapediatrics.2013.2590.
- Degnan, F. 2012. Clinical studies involving probiotics. [When FDA's investigational new drug rubric applies—and when it may not](#). Gut Microbes 3:485-489. [Related letter to the editor](#).

**A complete list of [ISAPP publications](#) can be found on the ISAPP website**

REMEMBER TO LOOK AT "[LATEST NEWS](#)" POSTS ON THE ISAPP WEBSITE, FOR EVENTS AS THEY HAPPEN