Message from the president

I have the honour and good fortune to begin my term as ISPGR President at a time when the Society is flourishing. Since I first joined ISPGR as a student over 20 years ago, I don’t recall another time when the Society has enjoyed this level of growth, excitement, and engagement. This is thanks to the dedication and leadership of our past-president (Brad McFadyen), officers and elected board members, as well as the countless contributions of our members to ISPGR committees, congresses, and other activities. I look forward to working closely with our returning and newly elected board members, and am sure the Society will benefit greatly from their enthusiasm, dedication and expertise.

ISPGR has been anything but idle during the past ‘off-congress’ year. The new ‘educational’ activities offered have been a huge success, with 3 seminar series and 1 summer school completed so far, and a final training school planned for mid-November in Texas. Many thanks, to all of the organizers and members that supported and participated in these events either on-site or online. For those unable to attend, most activities were recorded and will be uploaded to our website as part of the growing collection of online content and resources being made available to our members.

In the meantime, our co-hosts for the 2017 ISPGR World Congress, Martijn Muller and Vivian Weerdesteyn, are putting together an exciting scientific program with an impressive line-up of keynote speakers. Make sure to check the website for updates. The call for abstracts is now open, with a final submission deadline of Dec 5th. There will be no extension of the abstract deadline, so be sure to submit your abstracts on time. As a final note, the Awards committee have secured funding to offer new Student Travel scholarships to support students needing assistance to attend our Congress. There are also a number of new awards to offer to students and young researchers, such as the “Emerging Scientist Award”, “Best Poster Awards for Postdoctoral Fellows”, and “Best Talk Award by a Trainee”, in addition to the well-established “Aftab Patla Student Poster awards” and “Promising Scientist award”. We anticipate that our 2017 ISPGR World Congress will be a highly popular and successful meeting, and we hope you will all join us in Fort Lauderdale, Florida from June 25-29th.

Sincerely,
Mark Carpenter
President, ISPGR

Highlights

- Get ready for ISPGR 2017! (Pg. 5).
- See what Dr. Sue Lord, has to say about the ISPGR! (Pg. 2 & 3)
- Looking for a job, a PhD position, a conference? (Pg. 5)
Member profile: Dr. Sue Lord, PhD—Senior Research Fellow—Institute of Neuroscience—Newcastle University

Q1) Everybody has a unique career path to their current destination. Can you please share some of your stops along the way?

R1) My career path has been unconventional, but it has worked for me and I can say with absolute sincerity that I have loved the journey. Options for professional acceleration were limited when I was a new graduate, but when the time was right I emerged from clinical physical therapy (neuro-rehab) to postgraduate study. I studied part-time but energetically—suspended as I was in a constant state of thrall. Not surprisingly, my focus has been clinical research. I had so many questions! I feel honoured to conduct movement science research—to be working with patients who form the bulk of our research participants alongside innovative, conscientious, and talented academic colleagues. Along the way we all need people who take a risk on our behalf. I’ve had my share both in New Zealand (where I’m from) and in the UK which is my second home. I’m utterly indebted to these mentors and I should probably shout their names from the rooftops, but I hope they know who they are.

Q2) Tell us about a current research project that you are working on and a future research project.

R2) Currently, my main research project centres around falls in incident Parkinson’s disease. I’m digging deep into the data to better understand how falls evolve. On the one hand, falls occur because they are the ultimate degradation of motor (and cognitive, affective) function. But it’s not a linear trajectory towards a falling state—multiple interactions occur along the way. I am working with a unique, rich falls data set from the ICICLE-GAIT cohort (CI Prof Lynn Rochester), which has monthly falls diary data from diagnosis through until (eventually) 72 months. We aim to chart falls trajectory by looking at change in predictors over time which will better inform intervention.

Future research—that’s more challenging to identify because at the end of this month (October ’16) I return home to live. Plans for future work are under discussion. I will retain collaborative links with Lynn and her Brain & Movement (BAM) Research Group at Newcastle. I’d love to extend and apply in appropriate research (and clinical) settings what I’ve learnt from BAM about accelerometry, but we’ll see. Ideas foment!

“What makes me feel proud is often the lesser-sung, such as a conversation with a student who has transformed their own clinical practice after taking a course I’ve led or a PhD graduate who tells me they have landed a terrific opportunity.”
Q3) What do you think is one of the most important recent advancements in your field of research area?

R3) Without doubt technology is shaping every facet of the field – whether it’s understanding brain function, measuring discrete features of movement in real-world environments, or using virtual reality and brain-robot training to enhance rehab outcomes. Another key shift has occurred in data management and deployment – we’re now mining big data sets and using novel analytics such as artificial neural networks and classifiers to overcome the limitations of linear models. Both these trends are scene-shifting, for sure. They also reflect a dynamic for inter-disciplinary problem solving and cross-talk which is exciting in itself.

Q4) Can you describe one of your research or teaching accomplishments that you are most proud of?

R4) I find it hard to select one ‘wow’ accomplishment. What makes me feel proud is often the lesser-sung, such as a conversation with a student who has transformed their own clinical practice after taking a course I’ve led or a PhD graduate who tells me they have landed a terrific opportunity. I’m pleased to have launched a field of research concerning community mobility after stroke (building on the shoulders of others such as ISPGR giants Profs Shumway-Cook and Woollacott). More recently, I’m proud to have published a paper with the BAM group detailing a gait model which has directly informed the ongoing work of the group, and our latest publication predicting first fall in a falls-naïve cohort which is unique data. I’m also proud to have sustained energy and passion for research over the years – aided and abetted by an insatiable curiosity and fantastic colleagues with whom I can toss ideas around with.

Q5) Have you participated in any ISPGR events? If so, can you please describe your experiences?

R5) ISPGR is my favourite conference! The coming together of movement scientists from different disciplines to share findings about movement (especially gait & postural control) is highly engaging. I also like the fact that young scientists get the opportunity to present on the platform and the sessions are sufficiently informal that a robust exchange can occur. I have really enjoyed the Webinars this year – I’m a big fan of distance learning opportunities – and thought how instructive and interesting they were.

Q6) In the future, what would you like to see from the ISPGR?

R6) Selfishly given that I am heading back to the Antipodes, more opportunities for distance learning, viewing key note conference recordings etc. I really appreciate the content of ISPGR tweets – keep those coming. ISPGR does (in my view) a fantastic job, and I don’t feel compelled to say that because of this interview!
Have something to share?

Each issue of the newsletter contains a list of selected recent publications, a profile of a current member and other information and announcements will be included as they develop. The newsletter will be published four times a year. If you are interested in having your article profiled for the literature scan or being the profiled member, or if you have anything that you would like to share with the ISPGR community, please contact ispgr@ispgr.org.

Literature scan

Gait analysis and functional outcomes after twelve-week rehabilitation in patients with surgically treated ankle fractures

Read about how a twelve week rehabilitation program led to changes in temporal and spatial gait parameters for a group of individuals with bimalleolar ankle fractures.


Postural sway in children: A literature review

Does postural sway in children develop in a progressive linear manner, or are there age and development related turning points? This review helps our understanding on why this is important and how we can move towards it.


The Vestibular-Evoked Postural Response of Adolescents with Idiopathic Scoliosis is Altered

Learn how adolescents with idiopathic scoliosis respond to vestibular-evoked perturbations, and how their response provides insight on a possible link between sensorimotor functioning and the development of Scoliosis.


New initiative! ISPGR Journal Club

Do you like to critically and informally discuss scientific papers with your peers?

Then the ISPGR journal club might be for you!

The journal club will be held online through Adobe Connect and it will last for about 1 hour. The organizers will distribute the to-be discussed paper in advance, so everyone can get prepared for the big discussion. The first journal club will be held on December 1st 2016 - the time will be determined based on the participants’ availability and time zone. Watch this space!

If you are interested, get in touch with ispgr@ispgr.org.
Save the date for ISPGR 2017 World Congress!

For the 23rd edition of the ISPGR world congress, we are headed to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA. The congress will be held from the 25th to the 29th of June, 2017 at the Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort. If you are interested in attending please note that registration opens in early 2017.

Are you interested in presenting a poster or an oral presentation at this congress? ISPGR is now accepting oral and poster abstract submissions from members in good standing for the 2017 World Congress. **The deadline for abstract submission is December 5th 2016.** You can click [here](#) for a link to the submission guidelines.

Please click [here](#) for a link to the conference website for other information. Follow the **ISPGR on twitter** for more conference updates.

The impressive line-up of keynote speakers is vouching for an interesting congress already!
2. Grégoire Courtine, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne
3. Bill McIlroy, University of Waterloo
4. Alice Nieuwboer, KU Leuven
5. Susan L. Whitney, University of Pittsburgh

And a big thanks to our confirmed exhibitors so far!

Opportunities

Jobs:
1. Postdoctoral research opportunity in total knee replacement in Aalborg, Denmark (Link)
2. Associate/Full Professor in Kinesiology and Applied Physiology in Newark, DE, USA, (Link)
3. MS Assistantships in Biomechanics at Illinois State University (contact email 1 and contact email 2)
4. PhD student position—Musculoskeletal biomechanics and imaging, Boston, MA, USA (Link)

Conference, school and symposium announcements:
1. Congress PEM («Posture—Équilibre—Mouvement »), Nancy, France 8-10 December 2016 (Link)
2. European Society of Biomechanics (ESB 2017) (Link)
3. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Biomechanics (ASB 2017) (Link)
4. International Society of Biomechanics (ISB/APAB/ANZSB 2017) (Link)
5. Gait and Clinical Movement Analysis Society (GCMAS 2017) (Link)
6. International Conference on Ambulatory Monitoring of Physical Activity and Movement (ICAMPAM 2017) (Link)
Useful links

International Society of Posture & Gait Research: [www.ispgr.org](http://www.ispgr.org)

Gait & Clinical Movement Analysis Society: [www.gcmas.org](http://www.gcmas.org)

European Society for Movement Analysis in Adults and Children: [www.esmac.org](http://www.esmac.org)

International Society for the Measurement of Physical Behaviour: [www.ismpb.org](http://www.ismpb.org)


Società Italiani di Analisi del Movimento in Clinica: [www.siamoc.it](http://www.siamoc.it)

American Society of Biomechanics: [www.asbweb.org](http://www.asbweb.org)


Check out our blog on the ISPGR website ([www.ispgr.org/blogs](http://www.ispgr.org/blogs))

The blog was started almost a year ago and now boasts over 30 separate publications! If you have a recent publication that you would like to profile on the blog, please contact ISPGR to share your interest: [ispgr@ispgr.org](mailto:ispgr@ispgr.org) or contact the editorial team directly: [k.delbaere@neura.edu.au](mailto:k.delbaere@neura.edu.au).

Click the image below to read about the exciting and innovative work our members are doing.