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. Our annual meeting provides an opportunity for scientists from industry and academia to engage in one-to-one networking and in group discussions on topics selected in combination with our industry partners. These 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 arrange meetings with regulators, write position papers and convene consensus panels as needed. We are viewed as a strong and independent voice of reason within probiotic and prebiotic science and we work toward a bright future for probiotic and prebiotic research and development.

2014 ISAPP Accomplishments and Activities

- Convened 2014 annual meeting in Aberdeen, Scotland. Meeting report. Publications from the annual meeting are planned for 4 of the 5 discussion groups.
- Drs. Chris Cifelli, National Dairy Council and Saskia van Hemert were elected as Sr. and Jr. (respectively) IAC representatives to the ISAPP board.
- Provided travel support for Prof. Bruno Pot to speak at the NIH National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases meeting, Gastrointestinal Microbiota in Allergy and Advances in Probiotics Workshop. Dr. Pot provided important insights on probiotic strain selection strategies for allergy endpoints. ISAPP board members, Mary Ellen Sanders and Michael Cabana, also delivered lectures at this meeting.
- Collaborated with the World Gastroenterology Organisation on World Digestive Health Day 2014, themed "Gut Microbes. Importance in Health and Disease", with the following outputs:
  - Updated ISAPP’s Consumer Guidelines (Choosing a Probiotic Product; Choosing a Prebiotic Product)
  - Informational short videos
    - Prebiotics: What they are, what they do and how we find out. Glenn Gibson, Ph.D., Food Microbial Sciences Unit, School of Food Biosciences, The University of Reading Whiteknights, UK
    - Useful information about probiotics for clinicians - a 5 minute video by Mary Ellen Sanders, Ph.D., Executive Science Officer, ISAPP
    - Re-programming humans: can microbiome and probiotic research achieve it? Gregor Reid, Ph.D., Lawson Health Research Institute, University of Western Ontario, London, Canada
  - WGO Handbook on Gut Microbes. Several ISAPP board members prepared chapters for this handbook, edited by Francisco Guarner, MD, PhD.
- Filed comments with the European Food Safety Authority regarding its intent to revise the guidance on scientific requirements for health claims on foods related to gut and immune function. ISAPP Comment.
- Filed comments with the FDA regarding impact of Proposed Rule on labeling prebiotics on foods. ISAPP Comment.
- Published consensus statement on the scope and appropriate use of the term probiotic in Nature Reviews in Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

Remember to look at “LATEST NEWS” posts on the ISAPP website, for events as they happen.
• Met with FDA’s Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research on May 22, 2014, to discuss CBER oversight of probiotic research as investigational new drugs. Report.
• Filed comments on FDA guidance, which requires that human research to evaluate functional effects of foods be conducted under an investigational new drug (IND) application. ISAPP Comment.
• Joined the American Society of Nutrition, Institute of Food Technologists, ILSI-North America and North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition in a meeting March 5, 2014, with FDA’s Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition to share concerns with a guidance that stipulates human research conducted on functional endpoints for foods requires an investigational new drug (IND) application. Report. ASN survey Results on impact of IND process on food research.
• Met with Mr. Richard Cleland, Assistant Director, Division of Advertising Practices with the Federal Trade Commission to gain a better understanding of FTCs perspective on conducting research intended to substantiate structure/function or health claims for foods in the United States. Report.
• The ISAPP Student and Fellows Association is growing and will organize a SFA meeting in conjunction with the ISAPP meeting in Washington DC.
• Through collaboration with Health Point Productions, free copies of "MicroWarriors" Special Edition are available to ISAPP members. Request your copy from David Knight of Health Point Productions at microwarriorsmovie@sbcglobal.net.

Looking Ahead for ISAPP:
• The 2015 ISAPP Annual Meeting will be held May 19-21, 2015 at the Georgetown University Hotel and Conference Center, Washington DC, USA.
• ISAPP is collaborating with the Asian Federation of Societies of Lactic Acid Bacteria (AFSLAB) to organize a satellite symposium focused on probiotics and prebiotics at the 8th Asian Conference on Lactic Acid Bacteria, July 8-10, 2015.
• Karen Scott will assume role of President of ISAPP during the 2015 meeting in Washington DC.

Recent manuscripts from ISAPP events: published, in press or in preparation (ISAPP publications)

Remember to look at “Latest News” posts on the ISAPP website, for events as they happen.