**ISSFAL BOARD NOMINATIONS 2016**

**Candidate statement**

**Christopher Ramsden, MD**

I am a Clinical Investigator at the National Institutes of Health, Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and a Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Public Health Service. My research efforts are directed toward conducting diet intervention trials to address evidence gaps in the field. I am currently PI on collaborative human trials that are focused on the biochemical and clinical effects of altering dietary n-6 and n-3 fatty acids. I am also involved in animal and *in vitro* studies evaluating the bioactivities of lipid mediators.

**Personal Statement:**

As an early career investigator, I have a strong interest in issues relating to the development of the next generation of fatty acid researchers. I am aware of the opportunities and challenges and that early career scientists face in their path toward research independence. Our collective success will be critical if we are to translate current discoveries from bench to the bedside, and to expand the field with new ideas and discoveries. If elected, I will strive to support and expand career development opportunities for post-graduate students and other early career scientists.

My clinical background also provides a unique perspective into the levels of evidence that may be required to change clinical practice. As a clinician employed by the NIH and the Public Health Service, people can be certain that I have no commercial links to the pharmaceutical or nutrition supplement industries.

This is an exciting time to be involved in fatty acid research, with discoveries of several families of novel lipid mediators shown to be active in numerous organ systems. Advances in analytical technologies promise to accelerate the discovery process, leading to better understanding of disease mechanisms and novel treatments.

As the premier fatty acid research society, I believe ISSFAL should shape the scientific trajectory of the field and further distinguish itself as the fatty acid authority in the greater scientific community. I would welcome the opportunity to serve ISSFAL, and will strive to make a positive contribution to the further advancement of the Society.

Christopher Ramsden, MD

Clinical Investigator

National Institutes of Health

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Section on Nutritional Neurosciences