**ISSFAL Board of Directors Candidate Statement : Richard Bazinet, BSc PhD,**

I am pleased and honored to be nominated to continue to stand for a position on the ISSFAL board.  I am currently an Associate professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences, Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto in October of 2006.  Prior to this I was a post-doctoral fellow training in Dr. Stanley I Rapoport’s laboratory in the Brain Physiology and Metabolism Section at the National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health.  I received my PhD training under the supervision of Dr. Stephen C Cunnane while he was at the University of Toronto.  I am currently an associate editor of Lipids and the Editor-in-Chief of the official ISSFAL journal, *Prostaglandins, Leukotrienes and Essential Fatty* Acids (PLEFA).

                My research program is interested in understanding the mechanisms involved in the brain’s uptake and utilization of fatty acids, particularly as it relates to signal transduction.  We are currently using rodent models in combination with kinetics and molecular biology to understand the brain’s handling of fatty acids under normal and pathogenic states.  I also have several collaborations with clinicians examining the role of dietary omega-3 fatty acids in diabetes and mood disorders.  Furthermore, I am collaborating with anthropologists on the role of evolutionary pressures and environmental factors in determining the fatty acid composition of primate milks.

                I have been involved with ISSFAL since my days as a graduate student.  I was on the planning committee in 2002 (Montreal) and attended/participated at the subsequent meetings.  I have been the recipient of studentships from previous ISSFAL meetings and awarded the early career award for ISSFAL 2008 in Kansas City.  I am very happy with the society as a whole and would continue to support its mandate.  I think it is imperative for ISSFAL to continue to support and help in the development of “young” scientists and to be involved in their transition to senior scientists.  Furthermore, since my appointment as Editor-in-Chief of PLEFA, our impact factor has doubled to 3.4.  I aim to continue to grow the journal with the aims and visions of the ISSFAL.

Richard Bazinet

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