



International Association  
for the Scientific Study  
of Intellectual Disabilities

## NOMINATION FORM FOR IASSID OFFICER POSITIONS

President Elect [ ] Secretary [ ] Treasurer [ x ] Vice- President [ ]  
Please indicate for which position the nomination is being made by a tick.

<b>Nominee – Name:</b>	Philip W, Davidson		
<b>Address:</b>	SCDD, Box 671, URMC, 601 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14642		
<b>Email address:</b>	davidsonph@aol.com		
<b>Telephone:</b>	585-275-6626		
<b>Fax No:</b>	585-275-3366		
<b>IASSID Membership:</b>	<b>National Organisation -</b>		
	Name –		
	Address –		
	Contact person –		
	Email address -		
	Telephone -		
	Fax No. -		
	Paid up member 2008	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Research Centre -</b>		
	Name –		
Address –			
Contact person –			
Email address -			
Telephone -			
Fax No -			
Paid up member 2008	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>	

	<b>Individual Member –</b>		
	Name –	Philip W. Davidson	
	Address –	SCDD, Box 671, URMC, 601 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14642	
	Email address -	davidsonph@aol.com	
	Telephone:	585-275-6626	
	Fax No. -	585-275-3366	
	Paid up member 2008	Yes: x	No:
<b>Names of Proposer and Seconder for this Nomination</b>			
<b>Proposed by:</b>	Name –	David Felce	
	Address –		
Membership Panel	Organisational member	Research Centre	Individual Member
	Email address -		
	Telephone -		
	Fax No. -		
	Paid up member 2008	Yes:	No:
<b>**Seconded by:</b>	Name -	Matthew P. Janicki	
	Address –		
	Email address –		
	Telephone -		
	Fax No: -		
	Paid up member 2008	Yes:	No:

***Paid up membership:***

The cut off date for paid up membership is March 31<sup>st</sup>.2008 for all categories of membership.

A nomination is only **valid** if the person making and the person seconding the proposal are paid up members of IASSID at the time of making the nomination.

## Philip W. Davidson

**Current involvement in research in intellectual disabilities:** Dr. Davidson's major research interests include: Aging and Developmental Disabilities and Neurotoxicants and Development.

Dr. Davidson is working with Gary Myers, MD, and a large international team of scientists to study the effects of transplacentally transmitted methylmercury (MeHg) on child development. Ocean and lake fish ingest methylated Hg<sup>++</sup> and store it in fatty tissue. Humans ingesting fish through dietary intake, therefore, are exposed to MeHg, known to be a CNS toxin and a teratogen. Eating only a few meals of fish per month may raise MeHg to levels that exceed the WHO standard. Recent studies have indicated that low-dose exposure may present a toxic stimulus *in utero* and affect the development of those offspring of mothers who eat fish during pregnancy. The study is focused on developmental outcomes in several large cohorts of children prenatally exposed to MeHg in the Republic of Seychelles.

Dr. Davidson is also collaborating with Matthew P. Janicki in studies of health and organ system morbidity in older adults with I/DD. These studies derive from data collected with the Rochester Health Status Survey a data collection instrument developed for tracking health trajectories in adults with I/DD. The instrument has been in use internationally for the past five years and has led to a number of publications reporting the health status of large cohorts of people over 40 with I/DD. Drs. Davidson and Janicki are associated with the University of Illinois at Chicago's Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Healthy Aging in People with I/DD.

**Experience within IASSID.** Dr. Davidson has been active in IASSID since the mid-1980's. He became an individual member in 1996 and was elected to fellowship in the organization in 2000. In 2000 he also was elected as Treasurer of the Aging SIRG and in 2004, became co-chair and was elected to IASSID Council.

**Experience relevant to the role of Treasurer.** In June, 2007, Dr. Davidson stepped aside as the Director (and Division Chief) of the Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities (SCDD); a position he held for 30 years. SCDD is a federally-funded center for interdisciplinary training, demonstration services, research and technical assistance in developmental disabilities. The SCDD's annual budget in 2007 was nearly \$4 million. As director, Dr. Davidson was responsible for overall management oversight, including fiscal management. He has had extensive experience working with financial management personnel, both within the Center and in upper management of the University of Rochester. The SCDD has over 40 cost centers representing multiple funding sources of varying magnitudes and reporting requirements. He has extensive experience with creating and monitoring budgets.

Dr., Davidson also serves at Treasurer of the Aging SIRG for four years, enabling him to become familiar with IASSID fiscal matters and specifically the interactions between the Executive and component organizations.

**Capacity to undertake the role between 2008 and 2012.** Dr. Davidson is prepared to serve fully for the next four years. He is engaged in research projects that involve international travel which has proven to be an advantage in assuring attendance at Executive and Council Meetings.

**Capacity to undertake the role between 2012 and 2016.** Hopefully available.

**Goals for IASSID and the contributions he or she could make.** Having grown up in IASSID through participation as a member and officer in the largest SIRG, I believe that the future of the IASSID depends upon success as a membership organization, This means full integration of the SIRGs and other components of the membership matrix, as well as the accommodation of the Executive to be more responsive to those components. I also believe that the organizational finances, while ample at present, may not remain so without careful collaboration between membership components and the Executive. There is a need to retain and expand IASSID's status as the only true international research organization in the field of I/DD. This becomes more possible as the organization's principal focus remains on growing research communities and finding new ways to promote research. My many years of international research experience should lend support and leadership to the Executive in achieving these goals.