CANDIDATE FOR MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Nicholas Port

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Dr. Nicholas Port is a professor of Optometry, Neuroscience, and Cognitive Science at Indiana University (IU). He has been continuously funded since 2006 with grants from the NIH, DOD, NCAA, State of Indiana, NFL foundation, and private companies. Dr. Port is a CARE Consortium site-PI for IU Bloomington and has published over 80 papers, mostly on concussion. His concussion research and expertise spans all aspects and techniques of concussion/mTBI research: small human behavioral studies, large human behavioral studies, instrumented studies of the visual system, physiological ANS studies, neuroimaging, and blood proteins. Finally, Dr. Port has active preclinical wet neuroscience concussion studies, including validation studies in both humans and rodents.

CANDIDACY STATEMENT

Dr. Port will bring a unique background to the CISG. For the first 16 years of his career (undergrad, graduate, and postdoctoral trainee), he was a sensory-motor basic neuroscientist studying human and non-human primates. Dr. Port received rigorous computational neuroscience training by members of the National Academy, Howard Hughes Investigator team, and past presidents of the Society for Neuroscience: Drs. Tony Movshon (NYU), Apostolos Georgopulos (Univ of Minn) and Bob Wurtz (NEI). This high-level, interdisciplinary training prepared Dr. Port for a career of fastidious and exacting science.

Since his move to Indiana University (IU), where he is now full professor, Dr. Port's primary focus has been concussion research. He also embraced his new clinical home at the School of Optometry, including undertaking significant clinical training and transitioning to a more clinical research portfolio. Since 2012, he has continuously been on the sidelines of IU and local high school sporting events, particularly football. In 2019, he started a tertiary concussion vision clinic with his colleagues at the IU School of Optometry.

Dr. Port's vision for the CISG is to broaden the scope of expertise in the group via recruiting both more basic scientists (particularly neuroscience and cognitive science) and more clinical scientists (particularly neuropathologist and neurologist). He also seeks greater representation in the CISG from non-North American and non-European scientists. Dr. Port has many connections to international organizations and believes strongly that such recruitment can be successful and will strengthen and widen the impact and effectiveness of the CISG. An additional need in the concussion research space is a dedicated, annual meeting for concussion research. The current meeting occurs every four years, but an annual meeting is easily justified considering the rate of concussion research publications every year, and it would again help to broaden CISG's relevance and the prominence of the field as a whole.