

~ MEET THE 2020 ISPP BOARD CANDIDATES ~

Candidate Statements of Intent



JOHN COLLINS

United States

I am currently serving as Chairperson of the ISPP Board of Trustees. I have been a trustee for two and a half years, having also served as Vice-Chair. As a Board, we have strengthened ISPP by supporting the transition of school leadership, developing a new five-year strategic plan, increasing philanthropy, and creating a new scholarship program. I am American and have three children at ISPP in Grades 4, 7, and 11.

I have a Ph.D. in Education Theory and Policy and have over 10 years experience working on strengthening education systems for children in Malawi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, and Cambodia. I understand the current legal and organizational priorities of ISPP and can support the necessary process to streamline our school's legal organizational structure and its alignment with an updated policy framework.

Looking ahead, ISPP will need to implement a robust strategic plan that includes strengthening our commitment to learning support, philanthropy, scholarships, and finalizing a responsive legal and governing structure that enables ISPP to meet current and future needs. With your vote, I look forward to helping ISPP turn our new strategic plan into action with approved budgets to ensure the administration can achieve ambitious, but realistic objectives to enhance the ISPP experience for students, faculty, and the ISPP community.



NARENDRA KUMAR

India

I would like to offer my expertise and experience to the ISPP Board of Trustees. I am interested in helping the Board and administration manage the current strengths and future expansion of the school, and maintain and develop ISPP's reputation as the No. 1 school in Cambodia. I can share my industry experience to help achieve the mission and vision of the school, and its development as a centre of excellence. I have participated in the Environment and Well-being strategic planning subcommittee and would like to further contribute to these pillars of the school's strategic plan.

Having lived in Latin America and Africa prior to moving to Cambodia in 2011, I have been representing the healthcare industry at various platforms both within and outside the country. As a member in several groups such as Eurocham, CAMFEBA, Thai business council, and Indian Association of Cambodia (Vice President), I keep abreast of the latest trends of the business and socio-economic progress of the region.

I am from India and have two daughters at ISPP, in Grades 1 and 8. Our family has been a part of the ISPP community since 2011. I offer a range of experience in strategic planning, business development, international sales and marketing, people development, and general management. With your vote, I would like to apply my background and skills to help ISPP remain competitive, achieve its financial and strategic goals, and continue to support our students' access to the best universities.



JENNY PEARSON

United Kingdom

I am currently serving as Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees and have been leading the Strategic Planning Committee as Chair for over a year. The current Board has worked well together this year to ensure the ongoing strength and stability of the school through the period of Director transition, and now through this period of extraordinary circumstances requiring the school to go online. My involvement with different Board committees and activities over the last two years has given me a good understanding of how the school functions, and its current and future priorities. Being a Cambodian resident for the last 25 years, I have a good understanding of the Cambodian culture and context relevant to the school's functioning. I also have governance experience in several different organisations, and professional expertise in management and capacity development.

The Strategic Planning process has been highly consultative to identify our goals and plans for taking the school forward in exciting new ways over the next five years, in the context of rapidly growing competition and the very dynamic trends in the expatriate community. The priority goals identified in this process are: strengthen and extend ISPP's educational pathways for students with diverse needs; extend and embed the school's commitment to philanthropy, the environment and wellbeing; strengthen the legal and governance frameworks; and, extend the school's engagement with and service to its community. Also, very importantly, the financial basis of the school's operations must be robust to keep the school at the leading edge of high quality educational provision in Cambodia.

With your vote, I look forward to continuing to support the school over the next two years and helping ISPP achieve these goals and go on to even greater success as the leading international school in Cambodia.



TOLA PONLU

Cambodia

I am an advocate of education and a strong believer that education is a great means to alleviate poverty. As a parent of 3 children, I believe that I can continue to be a valuable member of the Board of Trustees for ISPP, having already served for one year. I am Cambodian and I have strong networks at both corporate and government levels that would help me to be able to contribute to the overall success of the Board of Trustees.

My 15 years experience in the corporate world with various senior roles in communications, marketing, planning, stakeholder management, and financial management would be instrumental to the Board, particularly helping to bridge and engage with the school's Cambodian community. My skill set in the area of communications would be beneficial to overall Board activity and I have already contributed to the strategic planning sub-committee on reputation.

ISPP has a great reputation. My experience in areas of organizational communication will help ISPP communicate with internal and external stakeholders in the implementation of the new strategic plan, director development, and budget planning. With your vote, I look forward to helping the Board continue to solve issues, such as how ISPP will address its long waiting lists.



CLARISSE KEHLER SIEBERT

Sweden

As Special Advisor (legal) to the current Board since August 2019, I have been part of a team that has built trust, camaraderie and an efficient way of working together – first in usual times and recently tested in extraordinary CoVid-19 times. As Chair of ISPP's Governance and Policy Committee, I have contributed to ISPP's legal restructuring and lead an on-going revision of the school's Charter to comply with the new legal structure. I want to see these projects through to their completion in the 2020-21 academic year. Together with Board colleagues running for re-election, I am keen to maintain continuity in our work together. I am committed to the new five-year strategic plan developed over the past two years that will be presented at this year's AGM.

I am Swedish-Canadian and have one child in grade 2 at ISPP, and a second eagerly entering Kindergarten in 2020-21. Our family came to Cambodia last August through a UN secondment. I am a senior policy officer on leave from the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, and currently support the Cambodian Environment Ministry. As a lawyer with degrees in both civil and common laws, and with experience chairing a not-for-profit school board in Sweden, I bring tools to support the process of making ISPP's legal structure fit for purpose.

With your vote, I look forward to supporting ISPP's new strategic plan – which includes finalising the legal restructuring of the school, delivering a revised Charter for ISPP, consolidating our approach to philanthropy and the Scholarship Programme, and increased learning support for the diverse learning needs of our community. In the immediate, supporting students and the administration affected by the CoVid-19 pandemic is in focus. Longer term, finding a permanent solution for ISPP's solar energy supply is important for ISPP as an Eco-school.



KENG SOMARITH

Cambodia

As a current member of the Board of Trustees, having served since 2019, I have witnessed a wonderful group of people who have played their roles diligently and respectfully as ISPP trustees. I have seen a lot of progress made in just one year with clarifying Board goals, setting up a five-year strategic plan, clarifying the legal status of ISPP, and developing ISPP charter amendments. I was very proud and honored to work with all the Board members as I served on the Governance and Leadership strategic planning subcommittee and the Board's Governance and Policy Committee related to the ISPP legal organizational review.

I am a judge and I have been working in the legal field for over nine years. I am also a Director at the Royal School for Judges and Prosecutors, in which I am responsible for designing the training program and ensuring the effectiveness of training future judges and prosecutors for the Cambodia judiciary. I am Cambodian and have a Masters in law from Northeastern University School of Law in the United States. My expertise in Cambodian law and the regulatory environment benefits the ISPP Board as it works with the administration to implement the new strategic plan and continues to strengthen ISPP's legal status within Cambodia.

As ISPP stands as the leading school in Cambodia and the region for years to come, my legal experience would serve the school well. With your vote, I look forward to serving with a group of members who share the same vision and goals as we make decisions related to learning, finance, community, facilities, and resources.