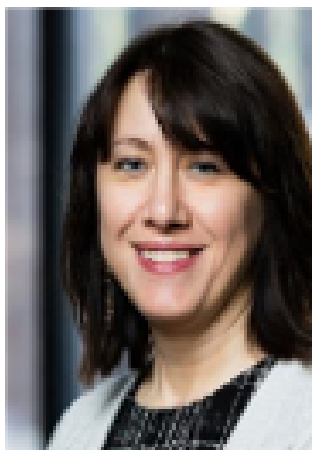




Irina Stepanov
Candidate – President Elect

Dr. Irina Stepanov received her Ph.D. in Chemistry, with an emphasis in Environmental Chemistry, in 2002 from the Moldova State University, the Republic of Moldova. As a Postdoctoral Associate in the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota (2003-2005) she was trained in translational applications of analytical biochemistry, with a particular focus on tobacco product composition, carcinogenesis, and biomarker development and applications. After completing her postdoctoral training, she continued developing her tobacco research portfolio as a Research Associate with the Masonic Cancer Center for 6 years. In 2011, Dr.

Stepanov joined University of Minnesota's School of Public Health as a tenure-track Assistant Professor, and was later promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure (2016) and Professor with Tenure (2020). She is currently Distinguished McKnight

University Professor and Mayo Professor in Public Health in the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota. She also has a secondary faculty appointment in the Department of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery in the Medical School. Dr. Stepanov's research program is housed in the Masonic Cancer Center, where she is the Founding Director of the Institute for Global Cancer Prevention Research (IGCPR) and the Director of the Exposure Testing Shared Resource.

The overarching goal of Dr. Stepanov's research is to reduce the global burden of tobacco-induced morbidity and mortality by contributing to tobacco product regulation and use interventions; effectively communicating tobacco research findings to consumers, healthcare professionals, and the general public; and developing a diverse and multidisciplinary global tobacco research workforce. Her research methodologies span from the chemical characterization of tobacco products, to the development and application of biological markers in humans, to conducting human laboratory studies and clinical trials of product use. Dr. Stepanov received numerous grants from the National Institutes of Health, including R01 and U01 grants from the National Cancer Institute, National Institute on Drug Abuse, and Fogarty International Center. With over 120 peer reviewed publications in this research area, Dr. Stepanov has contributed significantly to better understanding the public health impact of various tobacco products and is recognized nationally and internationally for her expertise. She has served as a consultant to the Food and Drug

Administration's Center for Tobacco Products on numerous occasions, authored multiple technical reports to the World Health Organization's Working Group on Tobacco Product Regulation (TobReg), and has been widely cited in Surgeon General Reports and in monographs published by the National Cancer Institute and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) is Dr. Stepanov's main professional community since she joined SRNT in 2009. She has been a very active SRNT member, including her service as SRNT Global Research Network (GRN) Education Subcommittee Co-Chair in 2016-2018, followed by the service as GRN Co-Chair in 2019-2020. In these roles, Dr. Stepanov coordinated efforts to develop the SRNT Knowledge Center, which laid the foundation for the SRNT University, and spearheaded the new GRN Co-Chair model in which at least one Co-Chair represents a country experiencing the highest burden of tobacco use. Dr. Stepanov continues to serve on the GRN Advisory Board, has served on the Program Committee for multiple SRNT Annual Meetings and as an abstract reviewer, and organized and chaired numerous symposia and workshops. Dr. Stepanov's outstanding service to SRNT and her contributions to the field of nicotine and tobacco research were recognized by naming her SRNT Fellow in 2020.

If elected SRNT President, Dr. Stepanov will bring a broad understanding of nicotine and tobacco research across its translational continuum; commitment to developing and empowering the new generation of diverse nicotine and tobacco researchers; and strategic leadership focused on the continued strengthening of SRNT and advancing its mission.

2025/2026 SRNT Disclosure of Competing Interest Form

Name: Irina Stepanov **Date:** 10/29/2025

Please provide the **name of all sources of funding or salary support** from any of the following sources **during the past 5 years**. Please write the name of the source in the box that best represents the type of funding received or the nature of your relationship. If you have no relationship in a given category, check the “No relationship” box.

Type of Relationship	Commercial Tobacco Product Manufacturer	Nicotine Product (vape, chewable, etc.) Manufacturer	Pharmaceutical Company	Gov’t Agency	Private Foundation	Advocacy or Public Health Organization	Any Other
No Relationship	X	X	X		X	X	
Full or Part Time Employment							
Consultancy ¹				X			X
Honoraria ²							
Research grant, or contract				X			X
Ownership of stock shares or equity ³							
Paid expert testimony							
Patent							

Receipt of product or database for research							
Indirect funding of any sort							
Other relationship (specify on following page)							

¹Consultancy is defined a payment from an organization for providing advice or expertise on a topic.

²Honoraria are payments for making a presentation to scientists, clinicians, administrators, the press, etc.

³Does not include ownership of mutual funds that may include stocks in these industries.

For every funding source listed in the table on page 1, specify the nature of the relationship and ANY potential conflict:

There are 4 types of funding sources marked in the table above, **none constituting a potential**

conflict: - Consultancy to a governmental agency:

- I served as a consultant (special governmental employee) to the FDA Center for Tobacco Products for a number of years, and recently participated as a non-voting member of the TPSAC committee meeting;
- I also received payments for my service as the member of the NIH Study Section (hourly pay for the time spent in review meetings);

- Consultancy to other entities:

- I have provided expert consulting to the WHO Tobacco Free Initiative Unit by preparing, reviewing, and presenting papers on various topics relevant to tobacco product regulation (specifically, Articles 9 and 10 of FCTC).

- Research grants from the NIH:

- I have been PI, MPI, or co-investigator on numerous grants from the NIH. The majority of the grants are/were in the area of nicotine and tobacco research.

- Other research grants:

- I am the Principal Investigator on a grant from American Cancer Society. This Institutional Research Grant provides funding for pilot projects awarded to Assistant Professors at the University of Minnesota who do not have large (e.g., R01) grants. In my role, I oversee the grant application, review, and award process.

Please list future funding sources that are either in process or approved but not yet in force:

Several NIH grants are currently in review or preparation. I also expect a continued consultancy engagement with the FDA CTP and/or the WHO. No conflict of interest is expected in these or any other activities.